



2008 JUNE •
fire siege

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Dedication

This 2008 June Fire Siege is dedicated in memoriam to the following people, and to all the other firefighters who gave their lives protecting ours.

Shawn Blazer, 30
Firefighter
Grayback Forestry, Inc.
Medford, OR

Scott Charlson, 25
Firefighter
Grayback Forestry, Inc.
Phoenix, OR

Edrik Gomez, 19
Firefighter
Grayback Forestry, Inc.
Ashland, OR

Matthew Hammer, 23
Firefighter
Grayback Forestry, Inc.
Grants Pass, OR

Curtis Hillman, 77
Contract Equipment
Operator
Happy Camp, California

Dan Packer, 44
Fire Chief
East Pierce Fire &
Rescue
Bonney Lake, WA

Andrew Palmer, 18
Firefighter
Olympic National Park
Port Townsend, WA

Jim Ramage, 63
Helicopter Pilot
Inspector
USDA Forest Service
Redding, CA

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Cave Junction, OR

Bryan Rich, 29
Firefighter
Grayback Forestry, Inc.
Medford, OR

Bob Roland, 63
Volunteer Firefighter
Anderson Valley
Volunteer
Fire Department
Boonville, CA

Roark Schwanenberg, 54
Helicopter Pilot
Carson Helicopters
Lostine, OR

David Steele, 19
Firefighter
Grayback Forestry, Inc.
Ashland, OR

**Awaiting Content:
Executive Summary**

*Starting June 20,
1,754 fires ignited
due to over 6,000
lightning strikes
across the state.*



Introduction

Starting late in the afternoon of June 20th and continuing through the next day and evening, California experiences a series of severe thunderstorms. They carpet the state from Santa Barbara to Yreka with more than 6,000 lightning strikes. By the time the lightning storm leaves the state, it ignites 1,754 fires. When the fires are all contained, xx,xxx,xxx acres have burned. At the peak of fire control operations, more than xx,xxx,xxx firefighters, from as far away as Australia and New Zealand, are engaged.

The fires have a great impact to people and society. During this fire siege, thirteen people are killed and many fire fighters are injured. The fires destroy xxx,xxx homes, xxx,xxx commercial buildings, xxx,xxx other structures, and cause hundreds of millions of dollars in property and natural resource damage. Thousands of people are evacuated from their homes, some for several days at a time and some more than once during the summer. Communications, power delivery, and transportation systems are disrupted. Smoke adversely impacts air quality over large portions of the state for weeks at a time, presenting significant health hazards and disrupting outdoor activities.

The large scale ecological impacts of the fires are complex and vary widely. Short term impacts of the fires include the burning of valuable timber and watershed lands, impacting the habitats of several threatened and endangered species. Many areas burn with high severity because of fuel accumulations. However, the long term impacts to natural resources are mostly very beneficial as fire is returned to many ecosystems and heavy fuel accumulations are reduced.

Both the Governor of California and the President of the United States tour fire operations. Governor Schwarzenegger declares a state of emergency for 13

counties, and President Bush declares a state of disaster, making available a wide variety of federal assets, including the military.

In California's modern fire suppression era, there is no record of this many fires starting in such a short timeframe, this early in the season, and burning simultaneously over such a long a period of time. There are larger and more damaging individual wildfires, but the number of acres burned by so many large fires at once is unprecedented.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide a broad, factual overview of the 2008 June Fire Siege, documenting key events, providing summary statistics, and serving as a reference for other more detailed reviews, inquiries, studies and reports. This effort also describes the:

- ▶ weather and fuel conditions that made California's wildlands susceptible to extreme fire behavior early in the "fire season"
- ▶ situations that made the fire control efforts difficult
- ▶ competition for limited fire suppression resources
- ▶ social and economic impacts including infrastructure, health, and direct threats to life and property
- ▶ organizational process and interagency cooperation in response to an event of this magnitude

Detailed assessment and analyses of specific issues that arise during this siege are the focus of other efforts and not covered in this report.

Fire History

California's Mediterranean climate with dry summers, abundant lightning and available fuels create an

environment favorable to the occurrence of fire. California and the western United States have a history of wildfires.

Native Americans used fire extensively for thousands of years to sustain plant and animal populations and provide for their own safety. Early European settlers continue the use of fire as a tool to help clear the land for subsistence farming and grazing. Fuel continuity and fire patterns are disrupted with the widespread, intensive domestic livestock grazing in the latter part of the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Following a series of massive wildfires in 1910, public policy changes to require immediate suppression of wildfires. The Forest Service adopts the “10 a.m. Policy” under which every wildfire is to be controlled by the morning after it starts. Federal and state wildland fire agencies begin developing suppression forces that become effective at reducing the annual acreage burned in forested ecosystems. This policy is effective at eliminating the small, low-intensity forest fires that limited fuel loading, but have little effect on the infrequent high intensity fire. The long term effect of fire exclusion is heavy accumulation of forest fuel, increased tree density, and greater risk of stand replacing fire. As the population of California increases, more

people and their homes are situated adjacent to wildlands, where wildfires are likely to occur.

California Lightning Siege Fires

California has occasional severe wildland fire sieges resulting from lightning storms. Sieges have occurred several times since World War II. Although the term “fire siege” is not well-defined, the following table shows a series of lightning fire events recognized by many regional fire chiefs as significant. These events are defined as multiple fires burning simultaneously over an extended period of time, over large geographic areas.

The 2008 June Fire Siege is unique. Although it is only June, the burning conditions are typical of August, because of spring drought. The storms on June 20th concentrate large numbers of lightning strikes starting wildfires in northern California. Fires are spread over a wide range of elevations, from the Sacramento Valley floor to the high country wilderness of the Trinity Alps. Fires are reported in several CAL FIRE units and National Forests, the Hoopa Indian Reservation, and Whiskeytown National Park. These fires possess tremendous potential to become large and some exhibit high resistance to control efforts. Many siege fires continue to burn throughout the summer.

Table 1: Significant lightning sieges in California from 1955

Year	Date	Duration	No. of Fires	Acres	Large Fires (within the Siege)
1955	August	18 days	436	307,113	Haystack Fire, Refugio Fire
1977	August	3 weeks	240	344,000	Marble-Cone Fire, Scarface Fire, Gerig-Mevers Fire
1987	August	8 weeks	1241	549,810	Stanislaus Complex, Hayfork Fire
1999	August	3 months	1200	800,000	Big Bar Complex, Kirk Complex
2008	June	3-5 months	1754	1,200,000	Basin Complex, Iron/Alps Complex, Lime Complex, Yolla Bolly

The Governor's Office of Emergency Services reports the 2008 June Fire Siege as the largest single fire event in California's recorded history (since 1936) with over 1.2 million acres burned. The second largest event is the 2003 October Fire Siege with over 750,000 acres burned.

To put the 2008 June Fire Siege into perspective, Table 2 shows the 26 fires burning the largest area in California from 1932 and 2008. In the 76 year record, more than half of the largest fires have occurred in the 8 years since 2000. Six of those fires are during the 2008 June Fire Siege.

Table 2: California's 26 largest fires by acreage since 1932.

Fire Name/Cause	Start Date	County	Acres Burned	Structures Destroyed	Fatalities
Cedar (<i>human</i>)	Oct 2003	San Diego	273,246	4,847	15
Zaca (<i>human</i>)	July 2007	Santa Barbara	240,207	1	0
Matilija (<i>undetermined</i>)	Sept 1932	Ventura	220,000	0	0
Witch (<i>powerlines</i>)	Oct. 2007	San Diego	197,990	1,650	2
Marble Cone (<i>lightning</i>)	July 1977	Monterey	177,866	0	0
Laguna (<i>powerlines</i>)	Sept.1970	San Diego	175,425	382	5
Basin Complex* (<i>lightning</i>)	June 2008	Monterey	162,818	58	0
Day Fire (<i>human</i>)	Sept. 2006	Ventura	162,702	11	0
McNally (<i>human</i>)	July 2002	Tulare	150,696	1	0
Stanislaus Complex (<i>lightning</i>)	Aug 1987	Tuolumne	145,980	28	1
Big Bar Complex (<i>lightning</i>)	Aug 1999	Trinity	140,948	0	0
Campbell Complex (<i>powerlines</i>)	Aug 1990	Tehama	125,892	27	0
Wheeler (<i>arson</i>)	July 1985	Ventura	118,000	26	0
Simi (<i>under investigation</i>)	Oct. 2003	Ventura	108,204	300	0
Hwy. 58 (vehicle)	Aug 1996	San Luis Obispo	106,668	13	0
Iron Alps Complex* (<i>lightning</i>)	June 2008	Trinity	105,805	2	10
Clampitt (<i>powerlines</i>)	Sept 1970	Los Angeles	105,212	86	4
Bar Complex (<i>lightning</i>)	July 2006	Trinity	100,414	0	0
Lime Complex* (<i>lightning</i>)	June 2008	Trinity	98,715	5	0
Wellman (<i>equip. Use</i>)	June 1966	Santa Barbara	93,600	0	0
Old (<i>under investigation</i>)	Oct 2003	San Bernardino	91,281	970	6
Harris (<i>undetermined</i>)	Oct 2007	San Diego	90,440	373	8
Yolla Bolly Complex* (<i>lightning</i>)	June 2008	Mendocino	89,994	0	0
Siskiyou/Blue 2 Complex* (<i>lightning</i>)	June 2008	Siskiyou	88,069	0	1
Kirk Complex (<i>lightning</i>)	Sept 1999	Monterey	86,700	0	0
Shasta Lightning Complex* (<i>lightning</i>)	June 2008	Shasta-Trinity	86,500	25	0

*Complexes that occurred during the 2008 June Fire Siege. Developed from CAL FIRE Fact Sheet dated 1/12/2009 and 209 data.



*The hiring, training,
education and conditioning
of firefighters is emphasized
during the winter.*

Setting the Stage

When storm cells form over the ocean, move on shore and the first lightning strikes during the evening of June 20th, the 2008 June Fire Siege begins. To understand why the siege occurred, it is necessary to review the weather and fuel conditions that lead up to the first ignition.

Fire season in California is largely determined by its Mediterranean climate of long, hot, dry summers and is usually busiest from July to October. During years with an atypically dry spring or fall the fire season can be longer. The spring of 2008 is extremely dry.

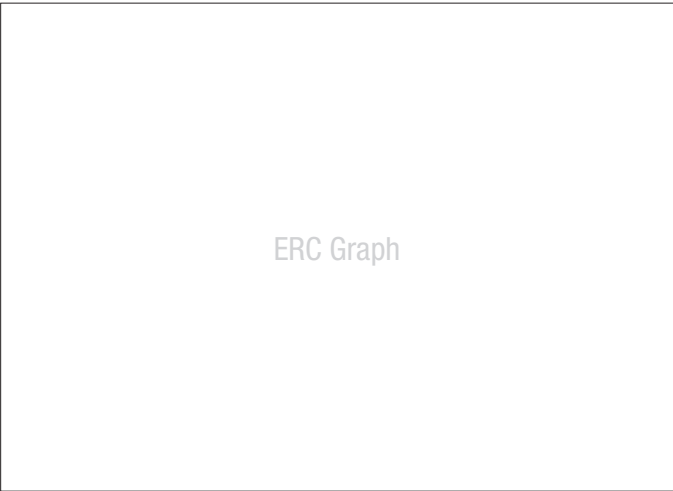
The year starts wet through about mid-February, but there is very little significant precipitation for the rest of the winter and spring. For example at the Redding airport, January accounts for almost half of the year’s total precipitation, with below normal precipitation from March through June. Statewide, spring (March, April, May) of 2008 ranks as the driest of the 114 years of record in the California Climate Tracker (Western Region Climate Center – California Climate Tracker). Snow surveys at the end of April 2008 show that water content of the snow pack is far below average in most mountain areas. The third week of May brings a heat wave starting in northern California and spreading to southern California with 194 record high temperatures set. Dry weather continues in June and a foehn wind blows from the 10th through the 12th.

The hot, dry spring causes early curing of lower elevation grasses and large woody fuel moistures are 4-8 weeks ahead of typical early summertime drying. In many places, shrubs put on little or no new growth, and mature shrub growth dies back. Increasing ratio of dead-to-live fuel makes the already flammable brush even more dangerous. Forest fuels are also drying rapidly. By late June fuels are reaching historic levels of dryness in several areas.

Preparedness

Preparation for the fire season in California is an intensive, year-round effort for the professional fire fighting agencies. The hiring, training, education and conditioning of firefighters is emphasized in the winter. Equipment is purchased, updated, maintained and ready before the start of fires. Contracts are in place, overhead teams are staffed and organized, and mutual aid agreements are finalized. Every summer, the agencies must be ready to go when fire season arrives.

Months before the 2008 June Fire Siege starts, the firefighting agencies in California recognize that the combination of weather and fuel conditions increase the potential for a very severe fire season. Federal fire agencies are designed to handle very severe fire seasons because there is a high probability that may occur in one or more part of the country each year. This year, much of the focus is on California. The State of California increases its level of preparedness due to the potential of the current fire season and the recent trend toward more active fire seasons.



By late June, Energy Release Components (ERCs), a measure of how intensely wildland fuels will burn, were ranging from well above normal to record highs for the date.

On May 9th, 2008, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signs Executive Order S-03-08 (see appendix), designed to bolster the state's preparedness for a long, dangerous fire season by increasing the state's firefighting resources and raising public awareness of the early, very dry fire season. The order directs CAL FIRE and other state agencies to take immediate action to prepare and protect the state from wildfire.

While the magnitude of the June lightning storm and fires is not forecast, when it arrives the firefighting agencies are well prepared for the long, severe fire season.

To prepare for the likelihood of a busy fire season, the fire agencies take several actions.

- ▶ Additional staffing is hired and trained
- ▶ Interagency coordination agreements are developed and in place prior to the fire season
 - Interagency dialog is initiated and kept open
 - The northern and southern GACCs conduct a joint activation simulation in May.
- ▶ Contracted fire fighting resources are inspected, trained, and available for deployment.
- ▶ Fire fighting resources are readied for quick deployment as conditions worsened
- ▶ Agencies exercise early contract start dates for aircraft.
- ▶ Early efforts are made to boost public awareness
- ▶ Military Resources are coordinated and made available.
- ▶ Joint training exercises are conducted

Early Season Fire Activity

In May and June, California experiences major fires exhibiting fire behavior more characteristic of late summer than spring. These fires reflect the influence of drought, build-up of dry fuel (ERC), and wind driven rapid rates of spread. The fires described here are early indicators of what is to come.

The Summit Fire begins on May 22nd, at 5:17 AM near Mayman's Flat in Santa Clara County and quickly spreads into Santa Cruz County. North/northwest winds of about 20 mph (with gusts exceeding 50 mph) drive the fire at an extreme rate of spread, burning nearly 3,500 acres on the first day. This fire is contained on May 28th, having burned 4,270 acres and forcing the evacuation of about 1,500 residents. The fire destroys 42 dwellings, 37 outbuildings, and 42 vehicles. At the height of the firefighting effort, over 3,500 personnel, including 250 engines, 98 hand crews, 54 bulldozers, 18 helicopters, and seven air tankers are committed to this incident.

The Indians Fire starts on June 8th on the Los Padres National Forest, about 20 miles west of King City in the Salinas Valley. By June 20, this fire is only 41% contained, and covers more than 50,000 acres in and around the rugged and inaccessible Ventana Wilderness Area. Firefighting resources committed to this fire operation include 121 fire engines, 71 hand crews, 15 bulldozers, 14 helicopters, 7 air tankers and more than 2,300 fire personnel.

In Butte County on June 10th, the Ophir Fire starts east of highway 70 near Palermo. On June 11th the Humboldt Fire spreads rapidly, moving from the outskirts of Chico uphill into the town of Paradise. Combined, the two fires burn approximately 40,000 acres and 303 structures. At the height of the Ophir Fire operations, 96 engines, 21 crews, 11 bulldozers, and 429 personnel are committed. As the Ophir Fire reaches containment on June 12th, all excess resources are re-mobilized from the Ophir Fire to the Humboldt Fire. At the height of fire operations on the Humboldt Fire there are 521 fire engines, 68 hand crews, 22 bulldozers, and 3,826 personnel committed to the fire fight. More than 18,000 residents of the Paradise area lose power, and as many as 10,000 people are evacuated from their homes and businesses.

The Martin Fire is reported the afternoon of June 11th, off of Martin Road in the Santa Cruz County community of Bonny Doon. Unlike the Summit Fire, which is primarily spread by strong wind, the Martin Fire is burning in lighter winds in dry, heavy fuels. March through June rainfall amounts are the lowest ever recorded in this area, at about 8% of average. The May and June weather here is unseasonably hot and dry, with little of the seasonal marine layer intrusion. The Martin Fire burns 520 acres before being contained on June 16th, with about 90% of that

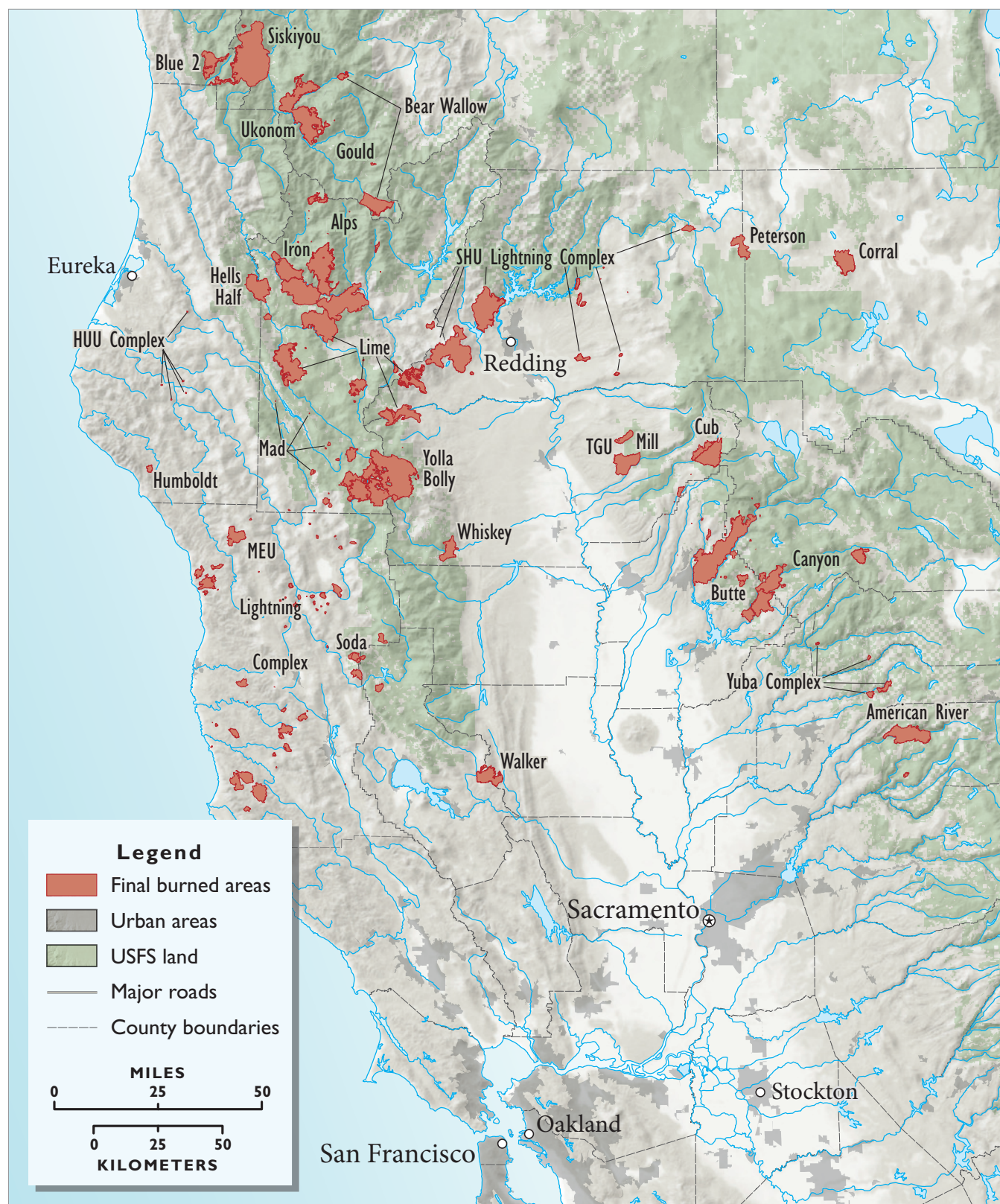
acreage burning the first day. The fire forces evacuation of approximately 1,200 residents and destroys three dwellings and eight outbuildings. At the height of fire operations, there are 67 fire engines, 29 hand crews, 11 water tenders, eight air tankers and five helicopters assigned, with a total of about 900 personnel.

Governor Schwarzenegger proclaims a State of Emergency in Butte County (date) due to the Ophir and Humboldt Fires and in Santa Cruz County, as a result of the Martin Fire.



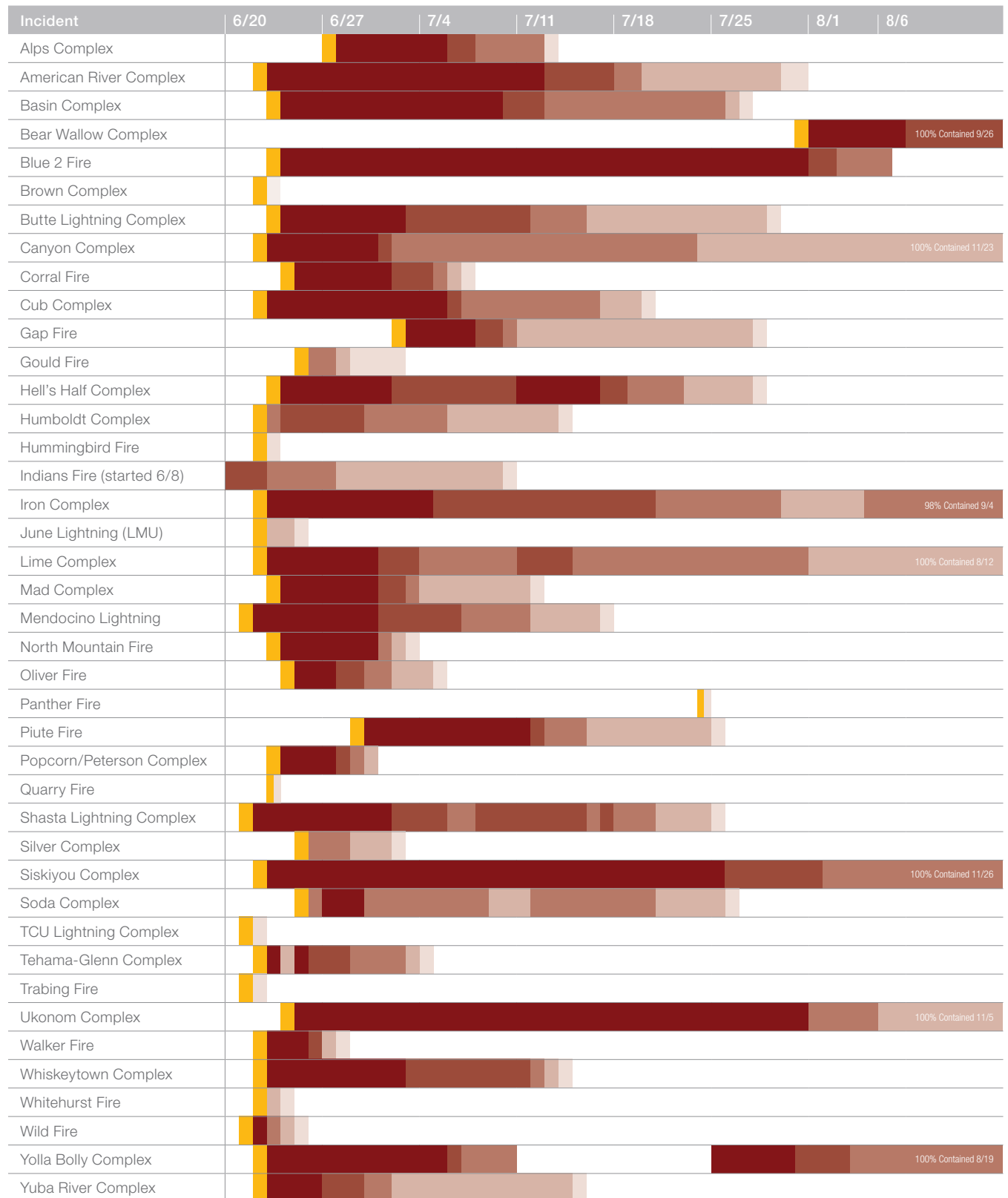
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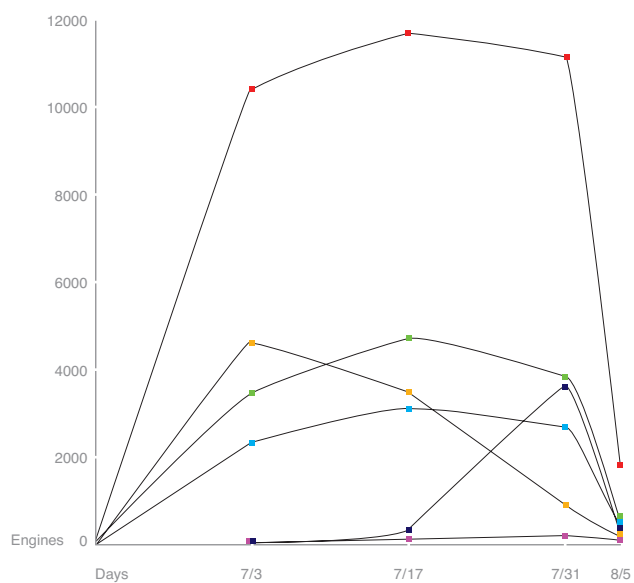
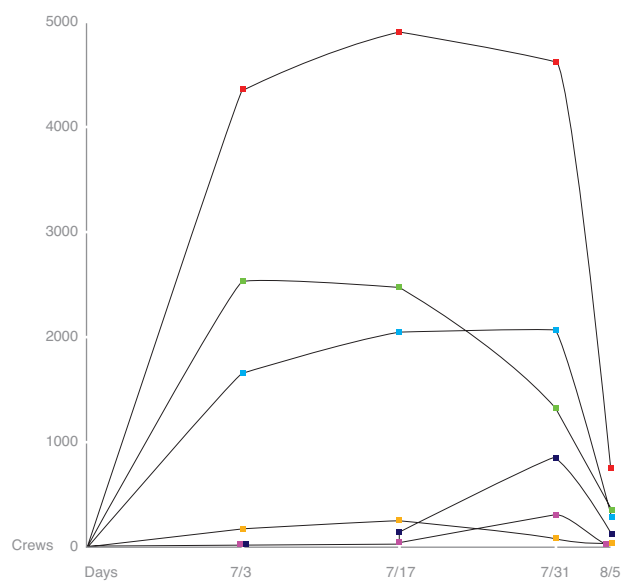
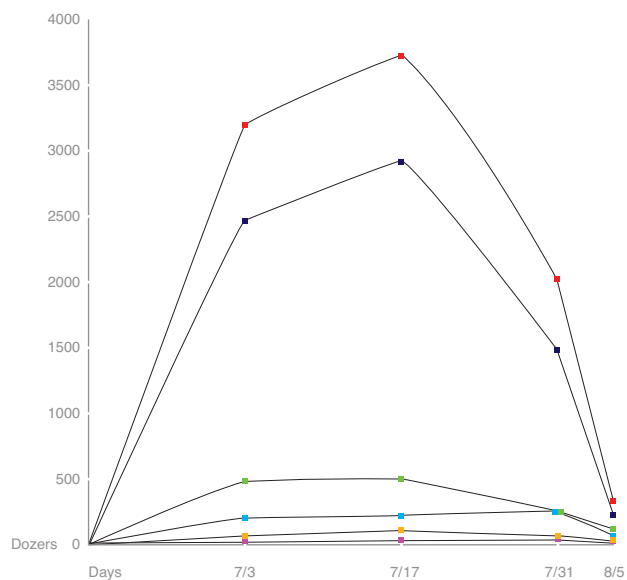
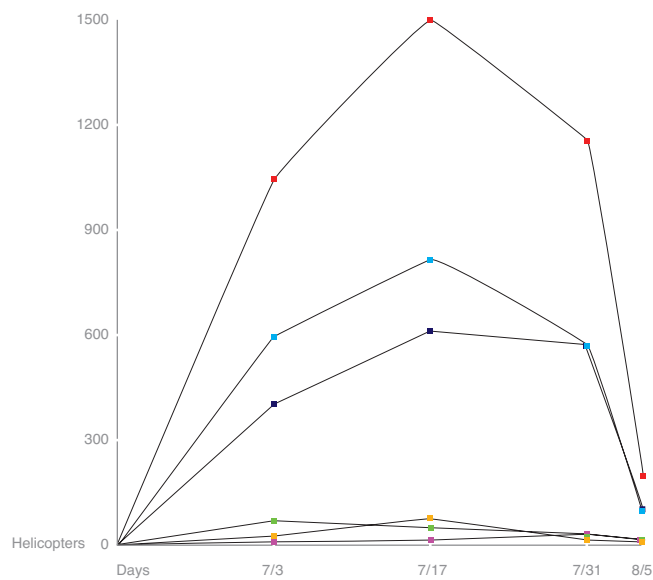
Siege Summary Part 1: Statistics



Incident Containment

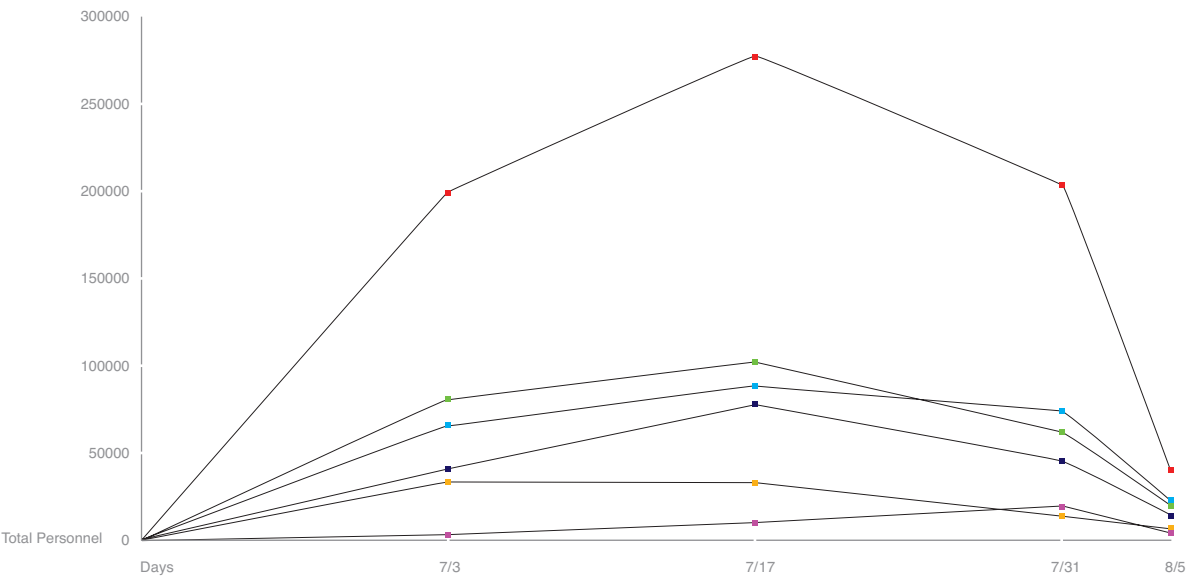
Start 0-39% 40-59% 60-79% 80-99% End



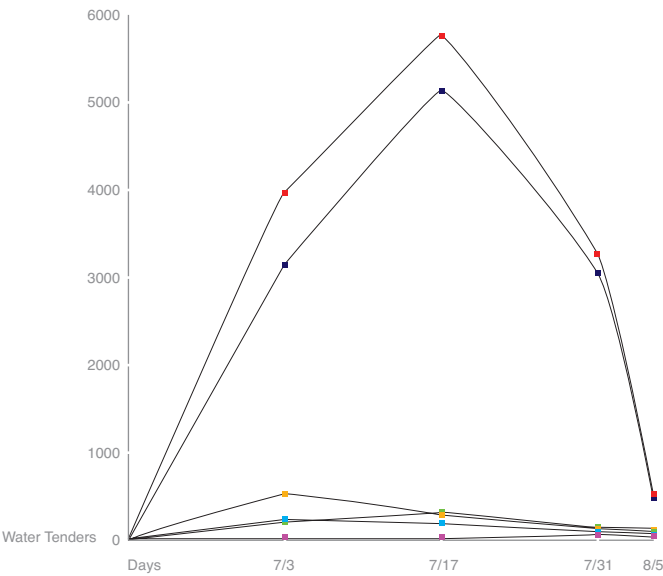
Engine Resources**Crew Resources****Dozer Resources****Helicopter Resources**

■ Cumulative ■ Local Government ■ USFS, BLM, BIA, NPS, FWS
■ CAL FIRE, OES ■ CWN/Private ■ Other (DDQ, WXW, Military, International)

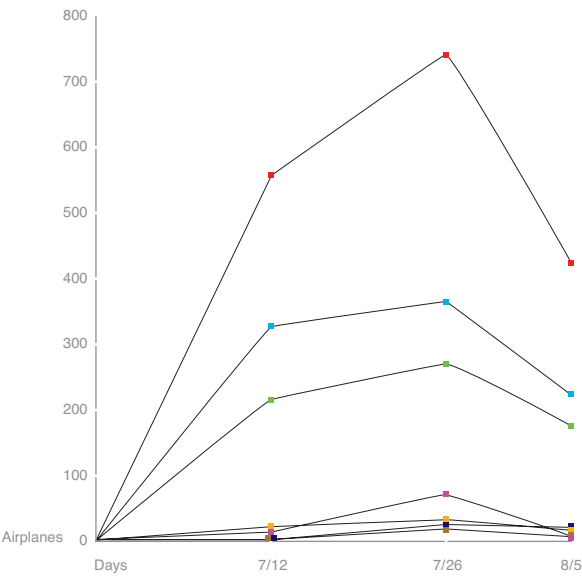
Total Personnel Resources



Water Tenders Resources



Aircraft Resources



- Cumulative
- Air Tactical
- Air Tankers
- Contract Aircraft (MMars Includes L)
- MAFFS
- T-910
- Lead Planes

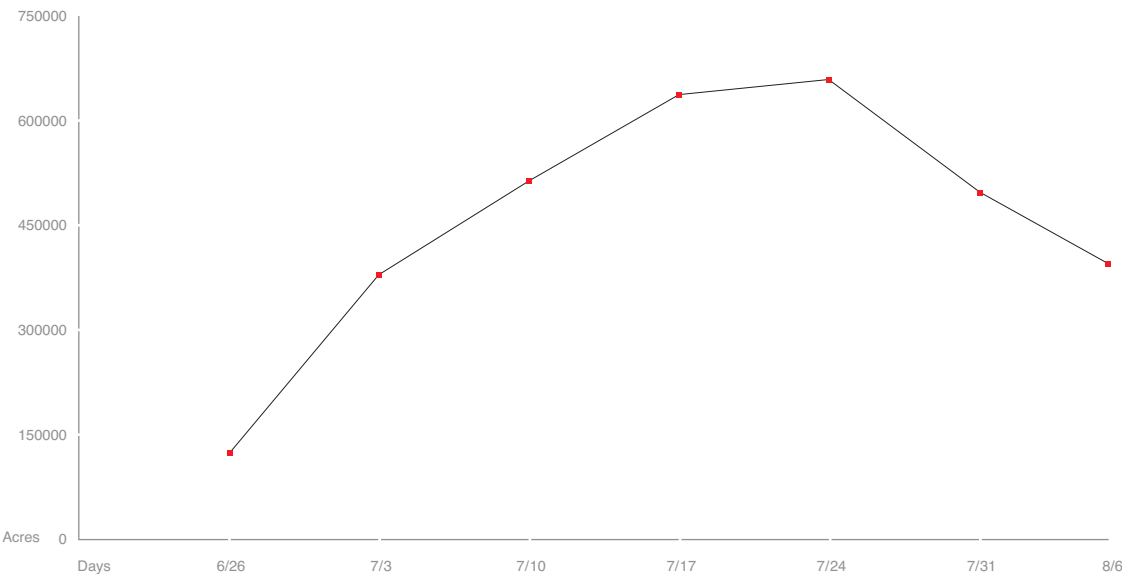
Local Government Resources

Agency	Number of Local Government Personnel Hours Covering CAL FIRE Stations (Local Equipment)	Number of Local Government Personnel Hours Covering CAL FIRE Stations (OES equipment)	Number of Local Government Personnel Hours Assigned to SRA Fires
BTU	648	0	27840
CZU	1874	0	27192
HUU	7402	0	8883
LMU	0	0	3776
LNU	5304	0	9756
MEU	1440	0	45360
NEU	0	0	1219
SCU	8810	4800	0
SHU	4922	0	17440
SKU	2210	0	0
TGU	4675	0	2913
GRAND TOTALS	37285	4800	144379

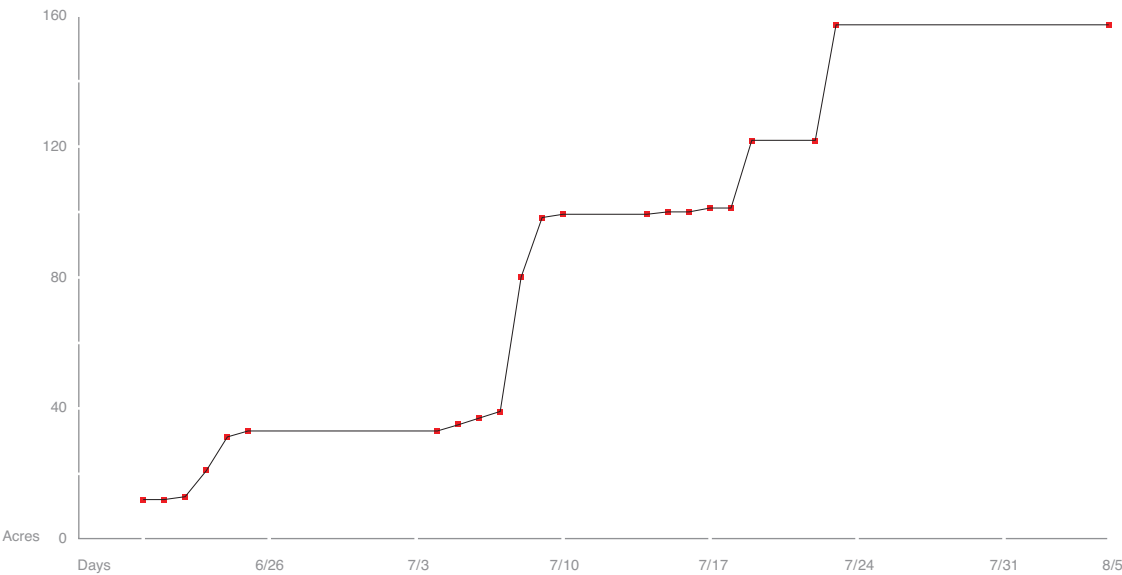
PHOTO: NASA Image

Await Caption

Cumulative Acreage Summary



Total Structures Destroyed



*By Midnight, Friday
June 20, suppression
efforts are initiated
on 14 fires in southwest
Mendocino County.*



Siege Summary Part 2: The First 10 Days

Friday, June 20 The Lightning Storm

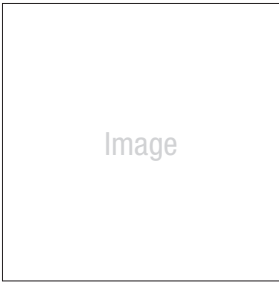
Fire activity is typical for California most of the day on June 20, 2008. The weather forecast predicts strong high pressure over the desert Southwest producing seasonal warm and dry conditions for inland areas and a southwest flow bringing cool and humid conditions along the coast.

The Trabing Fire starts that afternoon north of Watsonville, in Santa Cruz County, when a vehicle’s exhaust system ignites a series of fires along a ¾ mile stretch of road. These fires spread rapidly into a large eucalyptus grove and merge into a single fire threatening hundreds of structures and forcing the evacuation of about 2,000 people and 220 horses and other livestock. There are also two ongoing, large wildland fires actively burning; the Clover Fire and the Indians Fire. While responding to these fires was a

sizeable resource commitment, numerous interagency wildland firefighting resources remained available for new initial attack fires.

By late afternoon and evening, thunderstorm cells are moving in along the coast, producing dry lightning strikes from Big Sur, north to Humboldt County. As the early reports started to accumulate, the magnitude of the lightning event and resulting fire situation was starting to reveal itself. The 2008 June Fire Siege was under way.

By midnight on Friday, suppression efforts are initiated on 14 fires in southwestern Mendocino County between Boonville and Point Arena. Dispatch centers are receiving reports of scattered lightning fires along the coast. Further inland the Six Rivers and Shasta-Trinity National Forests report several new fires from lightning.



THE PARADISE FIRE

Humboldt and Del Norte Counties aren’t known for wildfires. The cool moist climate with summer coastal fog allows little of the fire activity characterizing summer in other parts of the state. Wildfire is mostly limited to the fall, when

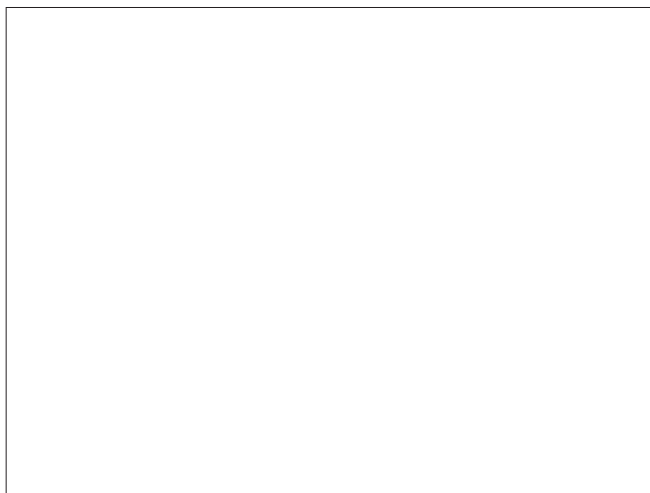
fuel moisture is lowest after the long, dry summer. This year the late winter and spring months are dry. The dry lightning storm on the night of June 20, 2008 ignites scores of fires across hundreds of square miles of remote and rugged terrain.

Most of the fires were extinguished within the first two days, but five persist as significant threats: the High, Larabee, Redcrest, Lone Pine, and Paradise. The most perilous of those is the Paradise Incident, named for its location on Paradise Ridge in the King’s Range. It threatens the coastal community of Shelter Cove.

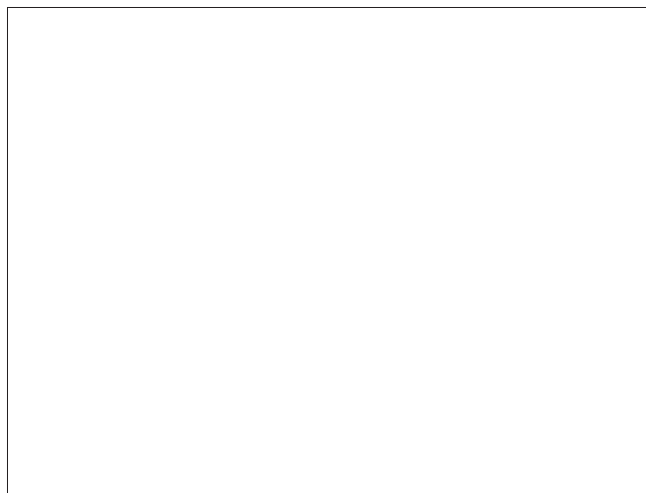
First on the scene was the Briceland Volunteer Fire Department. As other fires drained fire suppression resources, the Paradise Incident is in the capable hands of the volunteers well beyond its initial attack phase. Diana Totten of Beginnings Volunteer Fire Department remained the Paradise Incident Commander for many days after ignition. Chief Totten had a good plan, and with her department’s knowledge of the area and outstanding dedication, they moderate the spread of the fire. As other fires in the region are quelled and more resources become available OES engine

companies, conservation camp crews and air resources are redeployed to Shelter Cove. The Paradise Incident is contained at 1,000 acres. The community of Shelter Cove is left unharmed. It is a success story of local government supporting the state and national fire fighting efforts.

In all, it was an effort above and beyond the call of duty. Many unsung heroes have emerged from the 2008 June Fire Siege after a highly unusual early summer storm.



Await caption



Await caption

Saturday, June 21 **Lightning Activity Increases**

Starting about 2 AM on Saturday, June 21st, the lightning activity increases, with hundreds of downstrikes in Mendocino, Humboldt, and Trinity counties. A low pressure trough moving through Northern California on Saturday further intensifies the lightning activity and sweeps north and east, bringing heavy concentrations of lightning strikes to Butte, Tehama, Shasta, and Lassen counties. Other counties are also experiencing lightning strikes and fires, but the center of the storm hovers over Mendocino, Trinity, Shasta, Tehama, and Butte counties for most of the day. More than 6,000 lightning strikes are recorded in the Northern California area during a 33-hour period.

Within a very short time period, lightning activity starts a huge number of fires, creating competition for the state's interagency wildland fire protection resources. With many more fires than locally available fire fighting resources, many fires remain unstaffed. Committing all available resources to fires leaves many wildland fire stations temporarily unstaffed or staffed by local volunteer fire departments and districts.

The Governor orders the California National Guard to mobilize six helicopters, one RC-26 imaging

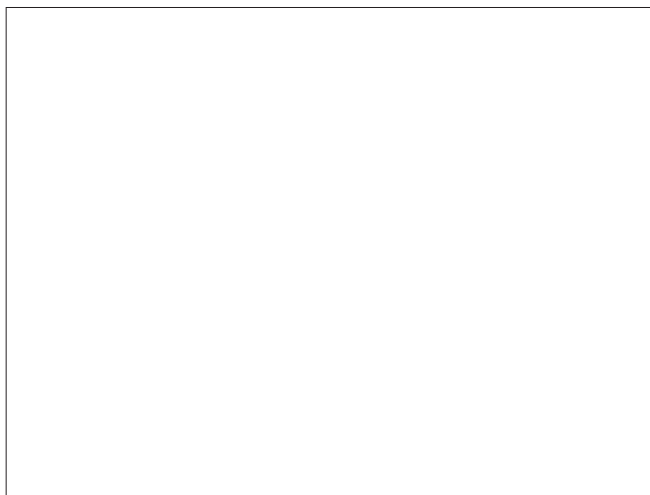
aircraft, and two Modular Airborne Fire Fighting Systems (MAFFS) aircrafts.

The Northern California Geographic Area Multi-Agency Coordinating (NORCAL MAC) Group is activated. At the first meeting in Redding, they are confronted with hundreds of wildfires burning in conditions more typical of August than June. They quickly prioritize the fire situation by Administrative Unit.

Sunday, June 22 **Creating Order Out of Chaos**

On Sunday morning, the weather forecast calls for hot and very dry conditions following the passage of the trough, with scattered thunderstorms possible over the Southern California mountains and deserts. Over 600 additional lightning fires are reported, with Butte, Mendocino, Shasta, and Trinity counties hardest hit. Early reports reveal numerous uncontained and unstaffed fires.

California is divided into two geographic areas, splitting the workload during multiple incidents. There are three Multi-Agency Coordination MAC groups in California: Northern California geographic area MAC or NORCAL MAC, Southern California



Await caption

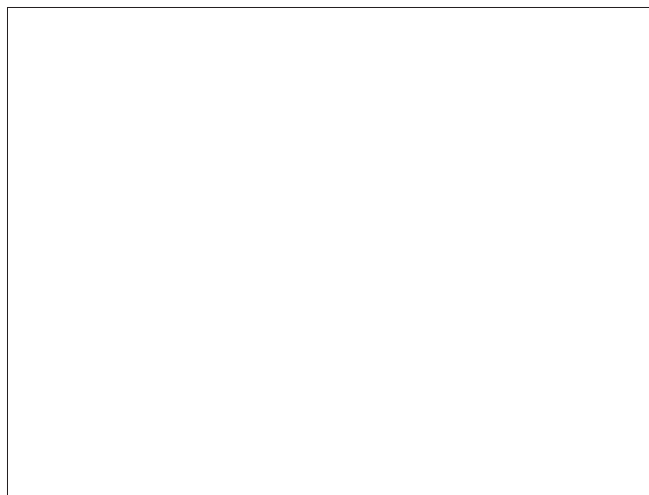
geographic area MAC or SOCAL MAC and a statewide MAC referred to as CALMAC. The MACS, consisting of regional chief officers (USFS, DOI, CALFIRE, County and OES) are established to prioritize incidents and manage resource allocations for their respective geographic areas.

The NORCAL MAC quickly implements the procedure for prioritization of incidents on 20 different units. Given the large number of fires, several fires are grouped into complexes to facilitate priority setting.

The prioritization of incidents is based on:

- Life threatening situations;
- Real property threatened;
- High damage potential (infrastructure, natural and cultural resources);
- Incident complexity (multiple jurisdictions, potential for growth, current political situation, potential for more incidents).

Fire fighting resources are allocated to the administrative units for dispatch to the priority fires within a complex. NORCAL scored and ranked individual large fires and complexes daily, sometimes twice a day, until August 20.



Await caption

Monday, June 23

Evacuations and Life Threat

The fires are having a major impact on local communities, regional transportation corridors, and power infrastructure. Evacuations are ordered for multiple fires near residential areas in Solano, Napa, Shasta, Trinity, Lassen, Mendocino and Butte Counties. A spot fire on the slope below the town of Paradise in the Butte Complex generates an order for 125 fire engines to protect threatened structures. Fires in the Lime Complex, in Trinity County, destroyed the Limesdyke Fire Lookout, and have the potential to surround entire communities (Hyampom, Hayfork, Platina and Harrison Gulch) affecting thousands of residents.

The fires close major routes from the Central Valley to eastern California including State Routes 299 East, 44 and 70. The Lime Complex threatens SR 3 and 36 in Trinity County and has the potential to sever all ingress/egress on the county road to Hyampom.

In Shasta County major transmission lines in Burney are threatened, and approximately 4000 PG&E customers in the Shingletown area are without power. The Butte complex threatens the South Feather Water and Power Transmission lines.

Governor Schwarzenegger receives a briefing on the statewide firefighting efforts at the base camp of the Wild Fire burning in Napa - Solano Counties. The California National Guard assets requested on Saturday were deployed today. The Governor declares a state of emergency in Monterey County and Trinity County for the numerous fires, including the Basin Complex and Lime Complex.

Tuesday, June 24

Early Successes

Despite the great number of starts, severe burning conditions and limited resources, fire fighters are having a lot of success containing fires. As more fires are contained daily, by June 24 more than 500 fires are fully contained. Some original fire starts have merged together creating larger fires. NORCAL MAC reports 26 large uncontained fires or complexes (approximately 400 total active fires) and SOCAL MAC is prioritizing 6 large uncontained fires.

Wednesday, June 25

Governor and CAL MAC

Another success is achieved today as the Wild Fire is declared contained at 4,089 acres.

The Governor receives briefings today for the Butte Complex in Chico and the Basin Complex in Monterey County. He requests additional helicopters from Oregon, Arizona and Washington to assist fire fighting efforts.

In response to the statewide competition for firefighting resources the California Multi-Agency Coordination (CAL MAC) group was activated in Sacramento.

They convene for the first time in over nine years as the state Preparedness Level reaches the maximum of 5. CALMAC reviews the northern and southern MAC group priorities, establishes statewide priorities, and approves resource allocations. CALMAC establishes procedures regarding sharing and use of critical resources, work-rest cycles and documentation requirements for incident management team requests.

Image

MENDOCINO'S LOGISTICAL CHALLENGE

Cal Fire's Mendocino Unit encompasses 3,509 square miles of mountainous, timbered terrain, stretching from the Pacific Ocean to the crest of the Coast Range, at 6,954 feet. U.S. Highway 101 traverses mid-county from south

to north, a distance of 107 miles. It is a big chunk of country, which CAL FIRE covers with ten fire stations, two conservation camps, and one Air Attack Base.

The evening of Friday, June 20th, lightning starts fires along the southwest coast near Pt. Arena. CAL FIRE responds, staffing all 14 known fires with firefighters by midnight. New downstrikes starting 2:00 the next morning, continue through the next day. Lightning fires are popping up across the county. A thunderstorm lingers over Long Valley and the community of Covelo, starting dozens of fires in

Cal Fire's protection area and on the adjacent Mendocino National Forest.

Saturday afternoon the locations of 60 fires are mapped, but at least as many are unmapped and the lightning is continuing.

Sunday afternoon over 120 fires are known, many are unstaffed, and all available forces are committed. With no outside help immediately available, it is time to do some creative thinking. A Cal Fire Incident Command Team is ordered and sets up at the fairgrounds in Ukiah, near the geographic center of the county.

They run the whole unit, including new fires.

Fires are burning in steep, rugged, timber country along the coast and inland. To cover the large area, five branches are created, each with its own Incident Base. Priority one is given to the south coast timber fires, but the incident base is not established until Wednesday or Thursday, because a big music festival is using the only facility in the area suitable for this operation, the Anderson Valley fairgrounds. Eventually, the base grows to support a large number of agency and contract firefighters, and 200 National

They are the communication point with National MAC for requesting national, active military and out of country resources. They continued to set priorities for the state until August 9th.

Thursday, June 26
Weather and Social Impacts

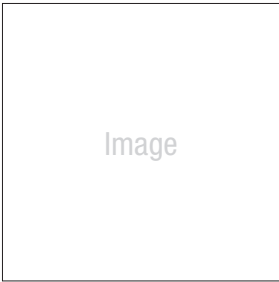
Adding to the growing list, Governor Schwarzenegger declares a state of emergency for Mendocino and Shasta Counties.

Air quality is impaired over a wide area throughout the siege, putting asthmatics and smoke sensitive populations at risk and creating unhealthy conditions for all. Air quality districts closely monitor airborne particulate matter levels and issue public health advisories in response to the heavy smoke concentrations (figure X).

Today, an upper level ridge strengthens the inversion over Central California, trapping smoke close to the ground and preventing dispersion into the atmosphere.



Smoke induced haze seen above California on June 27.



FUEL TREATMENTS

Fuel Treatments Make a Difference in Firefighting During the Siege. Fuel treatments during 2003 and 2005 at Whiskeytown National Recreation Area (NRA) are tested in the 2008 Fire Siege. Treatments play an important role in suppressing the Motion Fire

and the Moon Complex that are started by lightning on June 21. The Motion Fire smolders overnight, spreading uphill and reaching the Shasta Divide Prescribed Burn Fuel break in Whiskeytown NRA. The fuel break essentially stops the forward spread, while the north flank of the fire runs into old control lines used to burn brush piles. Firestorm hand crew is able to anchor and flank the Motion Fire using the old control line on the north flank, and then tie the head of the fire into the Shasta Divide Prescribed Burn Fuelbreak, limiting the fire to just 3 acres.

The Moon Complex starts on CAL FIRE protected land in the Rainbow Lake / North Fork of Cottonwood Creek area of western Shasta County about 2 miles from Whiskeytown NRA. Fire spreading north eventually merges with the Mary Fire of the Whiskeytown Complex. The fire reaches the boundary of the 2005 Queen Mary Prescribed Burn and spreads into BLM land near Shoemaker Bally along County Line Rd. which borders Trinity County. The Queen Mary fuelbreaks and access roads are used to access and check the westward spread of the Mary Fire,

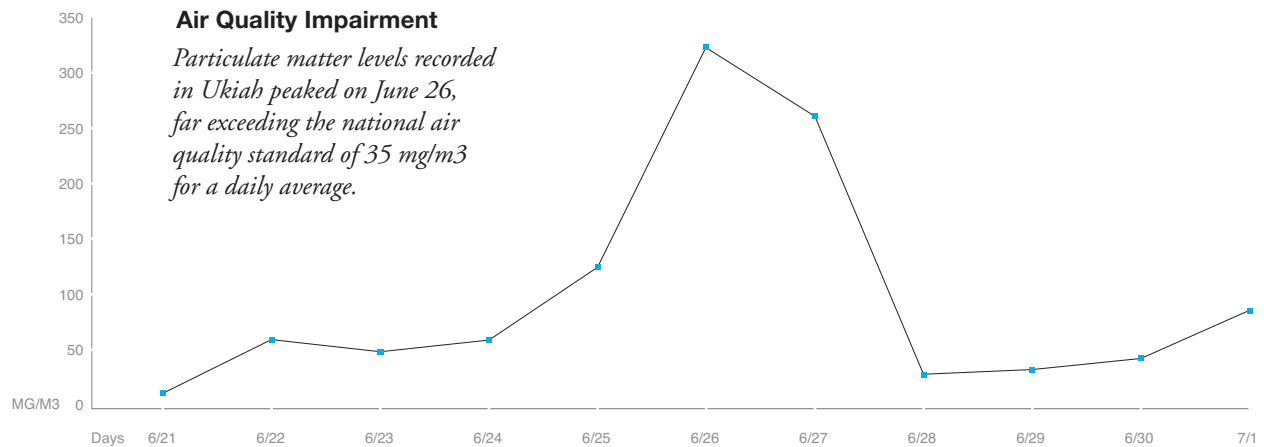
while the west and south Queen Mary fuelbreaks are used as firebreaks that stop the spread of the Moon Complex. The fire tries to spread into the old 2005 Queen Mary burn, but fuels are too sparse to support any spot fires. Cal-Fire and Federal crews secure the fire along the old fuelbreaks which are improved and then burned out through back firing operations. The fuelbreaks are utilized for access and potential escape routes. Some were further strengthened with bull dozers. Overall, the pre-existing fuelbreaks greatly increased the success of fire suppression effort.

Air quality impacts occur, even in areas many miles from the fires (figure XX). Smoke impacts also impair visibility, limiting the use of firefighting aircraft.

For administrative reasons, the Blue Fire (SRF) is incorporated into the Ukonom Complex.

The power and communication infrastructure continues to be threatened by multiple complexes. The Nor-Cal fiber-optic main is threatened by the

Mendocino Complex fires. The Western Area Power Authority (WAPA) power lines extending from Canada to Mexico are threatened by the Whiskeytown Complex and the Shasta Dam power generating system is threatened by Shasta Complex fires. The Shasta Dam power generating facility is a major supplier of energy to the Central Valley Project with 500 KV power lines. Power generation and



Image

WHEN 911 CALLS YOU

“Reverse 911” is the proprietary name for a type of mass-communication system that is widely used during wildfires. These systems are equipped with mapping software and a database of phone numbers allowing them to automatically deliver a phone

message rapidly to an unlimited number of people within a specified geographic area. The typed text message is translated into a robotic voice. There is often a pause before the message comes on, so it is important to educate residents to not hang up when they don’t hear a voice right away. Most of the systems also have a way to register cell phones, often over the internet.

During the 2008 June Fire Siege:

- Butte County uses their system 24 times to make about 19,000 calls between June 10 and July 9, notifying residents when

precautionary evacuation or immediate evacuation orders went into effect.

- Shasta County uses their system for evacuation notices as well as road closures and “all-clear” messages.
- The Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District uses their system to warn residents about potentially unhealthy smoke in their area during the Indians Fire and the Basin Complex.
- During the Slinkard Fire, Siskiyou County uses its system for the first time to notify residents of a community meeting

about the fire.

During the 2007 fire siege in southern California, the same kind of system was used to evacuate over 500,000 people in San Diego County. There are almost as many questions about the new notification system as about the fire itself.

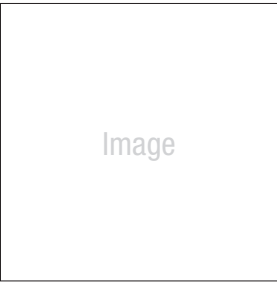
It’s important to recognize that residents may not receive the call information when hearing impaired or non-English speaking residents use these systems. Tehama County is required to include a Spanish translation with their emergency messages since

transmission also remains threatened in the Feather River Canyon by the Canyon and Butte Complexes. Fire fighting resources on the Whiskeytown Complex secure commercial communication towers used by television, radio, and numerous public and private agencies and companies for two-way radio communications in the greater Redding area from potential damage.

Impacts to natural resources are also increasing. The old growth redwood stands in the Headwaters Forest were threatened and many acres of commercial timber had burned. The following chart depicts the estimated merchantable commercial timber by CAL FIRE Unit that was destroyed by the conclusion of the fire Siege. This does not include regeneration.

Timber Loss

Complex	Loss
BTU	150 million board feet: Douglas-fir, and Ponderosa Pine, white fir (Butte County)
LMU	6 million board. feet: (Lassen, Modoc, Plumas Counties) saw log salvage – PP, D-fir, white fir
HUU	3 million board feet: (Humboldt, Del Norte County) – Douglas fir
SHU	80 million board feet: (Trinity and Shasta County) – Douglas fir, Ponderosa Pine
MEU	104 million board feet: Redwood, Douglas-fir and Ponderosa Pine (Mendocino County)



84 BASE CAMP

When President Bush signs the federal disaster declaration, FEMA becomes a major player in support operations. All non-federal, out-of-state resources must

be ordered, contracted, and inspected by FEMA to qualify for payment with federal funds. Since fire engines, bulldozers and hand crews are coming from all over the country in large numbers, it is important to have facilities to house the FEMA operations.

A couple of miles north of the Northern California Geographic Coordinating Center facilities in Redding stands an abandoned 84 Lumber Company facility. The former lumberyard provides large, air-conditioned buildings,

warehouse space, covered storage space, lots of parking area, and easy freeway access. An emergency short-term lease is quickly negotiated with the property owner and the old lumberyard springs to life again as “84 Base Camp.”

The facility proves so capable that other functions, including a rental car unit, a supply unit, a fire hose refurbishing unit, and a vehicle inspection and repair unit are also set up. For the next several weeks, fire crews, fire engines, and fire

overhead from across the country make 84 Base Camp their first stop. Once signed up, inspected, fed, fueled, and rested they are deployed to the fires burning throughout Northern California.

After a while, the locals passing by on Highway 44 get used to the sight of dozens of fire engines, buses, and rental cars parked in the normally deserted parking lot, and piles of sleeping bags or rolls of fire hose stacked in the former lumber racks.

Friday–Monday, June 27–30:**Weather, Governor's Briefing, and Presidential Declaration**

Fire activity increases Friday morning with a significant north wind blowing down the Sacramento Valley. It clears out smoke, allowing air tankers to operate effectively on several fires.

Governor Schwarzenegger and Interior Secretary Kempthorn visit Whiskeytown National Recreation Area and receive briefings on the firefighting efforts statewide and on the Whiskeytown Complex.

Saturday begins with a prediction for more thunderstorm activity and a Red Flag Warning in effect for dry lightning during the next 3 days. In anticipation of additional lightning storms forecast for this weekend, the Governor directs OES, CNG and CAL FIRE to continue utilizing all resources, while preparing for additional fires. He directs CAL FIRE to

continue running a centralized staging area at the Madera County Fairgrounds. This ensures that resources throughout the state are mobilized quickly and ready for deployment if new fires emerge.

Governor Schwarzenegger sends a request to President George W. Bush for federal assistance, including air and ground firefighting resources. On Saturday, June 28, President Bush signs a federal disaster declaration authorizing federal assistance and fiscal support for Butte, Mendocino, Monterey, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Shasta and Trinity Counties. Evacuation operations and sheltering of displaced people continue for the counties of Butte, Mendocino, Monterey, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Shasta and Trinity.

A thunder cell over the Corral Fire in Lassen County collapses with peak wind gusts of 50 MPH. This causes rapid fire spread, frequent spotting and

Image

IKHANA UAV

The Ikhana Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) is a Predator-type, unmanned, aerial vehicle (UAV) adapted for civilian missions. Built by General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc., the remotely-piloted reconnaissance aircraft is operated by NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center at Edwards Air Force Base.

Missions assigned to the Ikhana UAV system include; gathering data allowing scientists to better understand and model our environment, improving the intelligence capabilities of unmanned aircraft to perform advanced missions, and demonstrating technologies that enable new reconnaissance aircraft capabilities. The name was derived from a Native American Choctaw word meaning intelligent or aware.

Since wildland fires often occur in rugged, remote terrain and last for long periods of time, fire managers wanted a system that can provide real/near-real time technically-

enhanced imagery of fires for an extended period. This seemed like a perfect mission for the Ikhana. NASA and the Forest Service collaborated with the FAA and received a Certificate of Authorization allowing the aircraft to operate with multi-spectral sensors over fires in remote parts of the Western US, starting in 2007.

The Ikhana system, includes a trailerized ground control system and satellite communications system. It can be deployed to wildfire Incident Command Posts (ICPs) or to regional coordination centers where imagery analysts can support fire managers with

accurate, current assessments of fire perimeter growth. This can greatly improve the situational awareness of fire managers trying to suppress wildfires in terrain that is often hidden in smoke.

The aircraft has a wingspan of 66 feet and is 36 feet long. It can pack over 2,000 pounds of remote sensing equipment and work at altitudes up to 40,000 feet. The Ikhana can remain on station for extended periods without crew fatigue becoming an issue, as the flight crews are back in the trailer and rotate and rest as needed.

The Ikhana remote sensing UAV (NASA/Dryden photo)

the loss of established fire control lines. Resources are forced to disengage and retreat to safety zones as a precautionary measure.

On the Basin Fire, Highway 1 remains closed south of the community of Big Sur. Business and commerce continues within the community. There is concern that a predicted wind shift will increase acreage to the north and west affecting the east side of Big Sur. The Oliver Fire is causing unhealthy air quality affecting people in 4 counties.

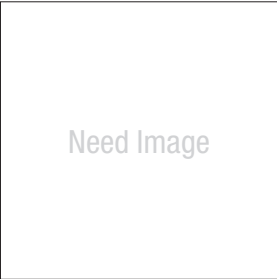
Following the lightning, strong winds are predicted for all fire areas with the potential to increase fire activity. As the winds materialize on Sunday, the smoke is again pushed out of the valley, allowing air tankers to resume operations. Fire intensity increases with significant runs and spot fires. The North Mountain Fire in the Sierra Nevada expands, threatening a gathering of children at Camp Mather. Fire fighting resources from the Siskiyou

Complex assist with five initial attack fires that started with lightning on the Klamath National Forest.

On the Butte Complex, the Oak Flat powerhouse on the Feather River goes offline due to burned poles on a primary transmission line.

Despite the adverse weather conditions the Walker Fire (LNU) is contained at 19,504 acres.

The Governor proclaims a state of emergency in Plumas County, (12,000 acres burned) and in Kern County with more than 2,500 acres burned.



“STEELHEAD”
BOAT RESPONSE

On June 21st, the Basin Complex is started by two lightning strikes. The Basin Fire started in the Ventana Wilderness in the near Bear Basin and the Gallery Fire near the coast of Big Sur, just uphill from the South Coast Gallery on Highway 1. They eventually join together in the Big

Sur River drainage, burning approximately 175,000 acres. Steep terrain and transmitter locations limit radio communications over the 30 mile long incident that ranges from sea level to over 3,000 feet elevation. Several days into the Basin incident, the Communications Unit Leader was having problems getting the incident repeaters to provide radio coverage on State Highway 1 at the coast. CAL FIRE, USFS, OES, and the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) worked together to have the CDFG boat, “Steelhead” to act as a floating portable repeater site. The

Steelhead comes to Monterey for staffing and to have the repeater installed. The crew moved the Steelhead into position and was on station for the entire shift for most of the next several days. However, the seas off the coast of Big Sur were unpredictable and the Steelhead could not get on station on a couple of days and was on station for abbreviated shifts on a couple of other days. While the Steelhead was on station off of Pfeiffer Rock, they were able to provide good communications to the coastal area as had been anticipated. However, in the end, the

unreliable nature of the boat based repeater caused the land-based firefighters to not trust the system enough to use it regularly. Though the system did not ultimately work completely, the idea to use the boat was innovative. The efforts of the USFS, CAL FIRE, OES, and Department of Fish and Game to get the boat on station are instances of interagency cooperation at its best. It is interesting to note that, during the 1977 Marble Cone Fire in the same area, a portable repeater was placed on a Coast Guard boat that was big enough to maintain station off of Point Sur.



*By July 1, 1,459
fires spanned across
435,894 acres of land.*

Siege Summary Part 3: Tuesday, July 1

The immense scale of the 2008 June Fire Siege prevents detailed description of the activities during each day. This section, Part III is a broader, more in-depth view of the activities on July 1 and provides a detailed description of a single day to illustrate the scope and complexity of the siege. The fires are presented in the priority order determined by CAL MAC with input from the NORCAL and SOCAL MAC groups. (Today, FEMA also joined the CALMAC group). Priorities continue to emphasize the protection of life, property, critical infrastructure and natural/cultural resources. This day was chosen to represent a day in the siege, not because it was exceptional, but because it was typical.

Status

By July 1st, the 2008 June Fire Siege is fully underway. The 1,754 fires defining the siege are identified and the vast majority are already contained by the relentless work of firefighters from California and throughout the nation. State, local and federal firefighters continue to battle more than 75 uncontained large fires from Kern County, north to the Oregon border. While some fires are immediately threatening communities, others are in areas so remote and rugged that they will burn until the arrival of fall rains. Nationally there are 337 new fires and a total of 95 uncontained large fires taxing scarce suppression resources and requiring fire managers to constantly reassess priorities. Fires were actively burning in the hot, extremely dry weather. A few of the fires within the complexes remained unstaffed due to limited resources.

Today Governor Schwarzenegger visits the Shasta Complex and the Forest Service Chief's principal representative visits North Zone. Military assistance continues to increase in the form of helicopters and air

tankers. The Governor orders 200 California National Guard soldiers to be trained and deployed to fight wildland fires. Their training begins this week for deployment on the fire lines early next week. Today the Governor proclaimed a state of emergency in Mariposa County, bringing the total to ten counties (Plumas, Butte, Kern, Mendocino, Monterey, Plumas, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Shasta and Trinity).

Statistics

The Governor is briefed with a daily Statewide Fire Overview which includes the following statistics:

Statewide Fire Overview

Fires: 1,459
Acres: 435,894
Personnel Committed: 18,457
Resources Committed:
Engines: 1,399
Crews: 488
Dozers: 335
Water Tenders: 410
Helicopters: 100

Highway closures

State highways and local roads are closed throughout California due to wildfire activities. Closures are in place for State Highways 1 near Big Sur, 32 between Chico and Chester, and 70 in the Feather River Canyon with delays on Hwy 299 along the Trinity River. Numerous county and local roads are closed as well.

Evacuations

Areas of Monterey and Shasta counties are under evacuation orders. Precautionary evacuation orders are in place for areas in Butte, Kern, Mendocino, Monterey and Shasta counties.

Structures Threatened

8,076 residences, 165 commercial, 3,045 outbuildings.

Structures Destroyed

31 residences, 1 commercial, 28 outbuildings.

Weather Forecast

Northern Predictive Services: Another weak disturbance is crossing Northern California from SW to NE. It will bring mid and high level clouds which will be thickest over the northwestern half of the area. The marine layer has deepened to 2000-2500'. The biggest concern is the SW gradient winds ahead of the trough. Record high Energy Release Components and record low 1,000- hour fuel moisture levels are reached in three Northern California planning areas.

Southern Predictive Services: A ridge of high pressure over the southwestern states will maintain temperatures a little above normal over most of the region. Morning low clouds and fog will move into coastal areas. Humidity will remain very low above the marine layer.

Activity by Complex

Butte Complex (CAL FIRE's Butte Unit): Of the 36 fires in this 17,000 acre complex, 11 are already contained and 12 have merged with other fires, leaving 13 active fires. Some of the fires in the Canyon Complex on the neighboring Plumas National Forest are burning areas where they can potentially influence or join fires in this complex. The two incident management teams closely coordinate firefighting efforts with each other and with the team managing the nearby Cub Fire on the Lassen National Forest. The Butte and Canyon complexes threaten major electrical transmission lines in the Feather River Project, and the communities of Magalia, Coutolenc, Butte Meadows, Jonesville, and Jarbo Gap remain threatened. Successful firing operations have been carried out last night on the Breakneck Fire. The Camp Fire joins with other fires and grew to 5,900 acres. The complex still is still not able to take effective perimeter control actions on all of the fires due to the unavailability of additional engines, crews, dozers, and overhead. During the day, the Butte Complex grows by 1,000 acres and is 30% contained.

Need Image

BARELY A BEAR

Forester Adam Deem had no idea that he was about to repeat history when he set out scouting the leading edge of the Moon Fire

on July 17th. His story would capture the attention of the news media and the public.

You probably know that back in 1950, on a fire on the Lincoln National Forest in New Mexico, soldier-firefighters found a seriously-burned Black Bear cub clinging to a snag. Rescued and successfully treated for his injuries, this bear was adopted by a New Mexico game warden. Of course, he then grew up to be the original Smokey Bear, the iconic face of

forest fire prevention in the U.S. over the last sixty years. Smokey the Bear was once ranked as the number two most recognized character in the world, right behind Mickey Mouse.

When Adam Deem was confronted by a small bear cub crying and holding his burned paws up, he did what many of us might do, he tried to help the little fellow. Having made a quick recon to determine that a protective mother bear wasn't in the vicinity,

Adam decided to try to catch the little cub. The little rascal naturally led Adam on a chase through the woods, which at this point consisted mostly of thick, brush that managed to scratch Adam up pretty good before he could corral the youngster.

Back at his truck, with the somewhat uncooperative bear pinned down with one arm, Adam backed one-handed about a half mile down the fireline, where he met a dozer that built

Shasta Complex (CAL FIRE’s Shasta-Trinity Unit): Of the 158 original fires in this 51,000 acre complex, an impressive 108 fires have been contained and 43 have merged with adjacent fires, leaving 5 active fires. Several of these fires are burning heavy fuels, in remote areas with difficult access, west of Redding. The fires near Lake Shasta continue to threaten the major electrical power lines of the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA), which are significant sources of electricity for all of California and contribute to the Western Power Grid. The three fires of primary concern are: Motion fire (16,700 acres and 25% contained), the Deerlick Fire, (16,800 acres and 10% contained), and the Moon Fire (18,500 acres and 15% contained). The Moon and Motion fires include BLM jurisdiction in CALFIRE DPA. Fires in the nearby Whiskeytown Complex and the Lime Complex to the west maintain the potential to influence or merge with these fires. Again the various management teams have closely coordinated their plans and actions. During the day, the Shasta Complex grows by about 2,500 acres and is 20% contained. Governor Schwarzenegger visits the Shasta Complex today.

Whiskeytown Complex (Whiskeytown National Recreation Area): The four fires in this complex have gradually grown to about 4,800 acres and are 30% contained. The fires threaten the WAPA power lines and critical radio, TV, and fire and law enforcement repeater sites on Shasta Bolly. During the day, control lines hold, and the Interagency Incident Management Team develops a plan with CALFIRE on how to cooperate in containing the SE and SW flanks. Estimates of the acreage burned in this complex decrease as the smoke lifts enough to allow more accurate mapping of the fires.

Indians Fire (Los Padres National Forest): Eighteen miles west of King City, the Indians Fire has grown by 20,533 acres (to 81,378 acres) as the result of a successful, large, burnout operation. The fire lines hold in place today and containment stands at 95%. Some crews are being released for redeployment to other fires.

Basin Complex (Los Padres National Forest): Five miles southeast of Big Sur, the Basin Complex burns very actively today in timber, brush, and slash. This complex adds 12,079 acres today, bringing the total area burned to 51,985 with only 3% containment. Evacuation orders are in effect for the community of Big Sur and Highway 1 is closed.

him a turnaround. At a drop point along the way, he wrapped the critter up in a blanket to keep his sharp young claws at bay, and got on the radio to seek somebody qualified to properly care for the seriously-injured cub. After a few calls, someone at the Incident Base in Anderson suggested that it might be best for Adam to drive down to Anderson and meet a Department of Fish and Game (DFG) biologist there,

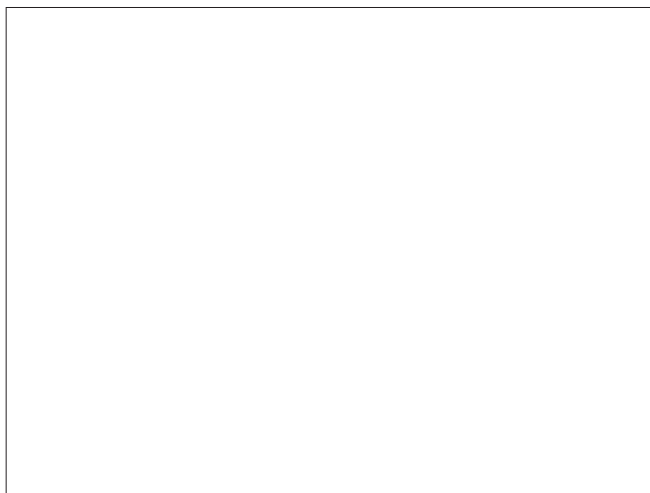
thus expediting getting the cub to proper medical care. Adam readily agreed to this plan, advising the incident dispatcher that “...I could use a little medical attention myself.”

CAL FIRE Forester Adam Deem with “Li'l Smokey”(Adam Deem)

Adam dubbed the cub “Li'l Smokey,” because of the original fire prevention bear, and because he was wrapped up like a sausage.

After being quickly transported to a DFG facility in Rancho Cordova, the bear received initial treatment, and then was transferred to the Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care center, where his burns and an eye injury were treated. With TLC from the facility staff, Li'l Smokey made a good recovery from his burns, gained weight, and got feisty. The 11 month old male was released at a remote site in the Klamath

National Forest on February 5th. Successful treatment and return of the healthy bear to the wild will makes the rabies vaccinations that Adam Deem had to undergo, “well worth it,” Deem said.

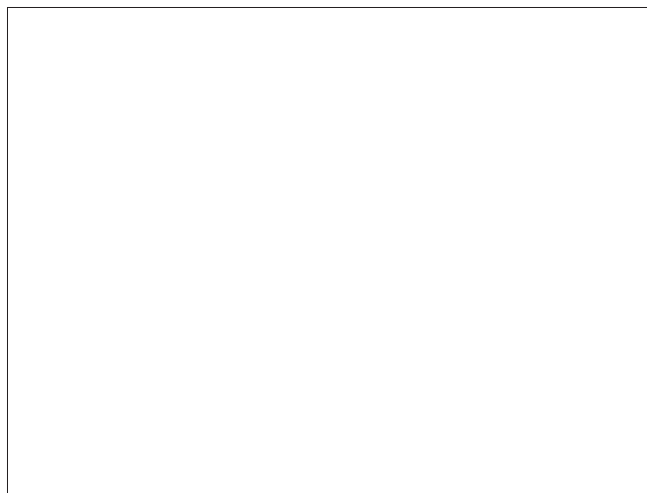


Await caption

Oliver Fire (CAL FIRE's Madera-Mariposa-Merced Unit): The Oliver Fire continues to hold inside the indirect lines, with containment growing to 75% today. Full containment of this 2,789 acre fire is predicted for July 5th, and many resources are being released today for redeployment to other fires.

Lime Complex (Shasta-Trinity National Forest): The 35,766 acre Lime Complex in the Hyampom area of Trinity County originally included 70 fires, 30 of which are contained. Many of the active fires are burning in steep, remote areas with limited access, presenting a significant challenge. Highway 3 and Highway 36 continue to be affected, disrupting transportation in Trinity County. During this day, these fires grow by only 321 acres, but continue to move into more difficult terrain.

Iron Complex (Shasta-Trinity National Forests): The Iron Complex fires are scattered from south of Hayfork to the Trinity River Canyon and Highway 299 corridor presenting a serious challenge. The main fires of concern include the Eagle Fire, with several miles of open line on the south side of the Trinity River, the Ziegler Fire threatening the communities of Hawkins Bar and Trinity Village, the Ironside Fire, abutting Highway 299 and necessitating frequent closures, and the Cedar Fire.

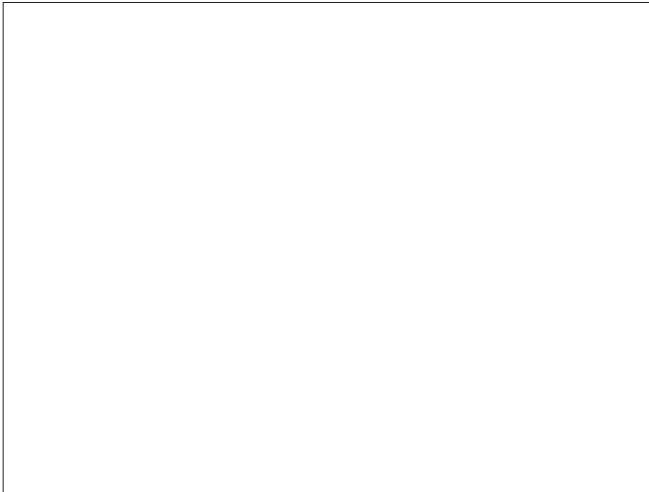


Await caption

Today a bulldozer rolls over on this complex resulting in arm and shoulder injuries to the operator. Ten fires in the Iron Complex are contained, but five fires remain active. During the day these fires grow by 1,061 acres to total of 19,178 acres and 25% containment.

Mendocino Complex (CAL FIRE's Mendocino Unit): The 37,800 acre Mendocino Complex originally included 129 lightning fires. Forty fires are active, 14 of which are unstaffed due to competition for fire suppression resources. This complex is now 40% contained. Fires are spread over a large area and organized into six organizational branches. Multiple base camps are established and supported by a distribution center at the Ukiah fairgrounds. Large stands of valuable commercial timber, including coast redwood forests, are impacted. Mendocino Redwood Company is taking independent action on 15,500 acres within their ownership. Several fires continue to threaten Highway 1, the main north-south artery along the Pacific Coast. A strong marine influence with cool weather helps keep the fires from spreading much today with fires in heavy fuel concentrations actively burning.

Piute Fire (Unified Command between the Sequoia National Forest and Kern County Fire Department):

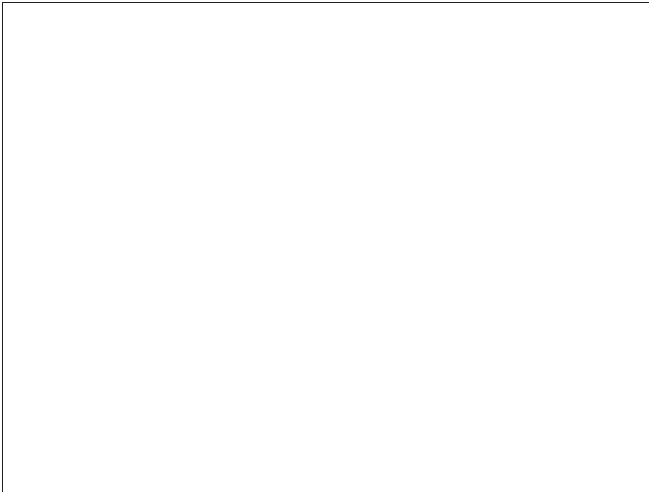


Await caption

The 11,514 acre Piute Fire is located 17 miles northeast of Caliente. Extreme fire behavior with high rates of spread, torching and spotting result in an additional 4,474 acres burning today. Several small, mountain communities remain threatened and evacuations are implemented. The fire now stands at 11% containment.

North Mountain Fire (Stanislaus National Forest and Yosemite National Park): The North Mountain Fire is located seven miles northeast of Groveland. The fire continues to back and creep, but the acreage is holding at about 2,711 acres, and containment increased to 75%. Full containment is expected within two days.

Canyon Complex (Plumas National Forest): The Canyon Complex is located in the rugged Feather River Canyon. Several fires have been contained including two fires, the Hartman Fire and Four Mile Fire which are contained today. Twelve of the original 42 fires have merged with other fires. Nine fires remain active, one of which has not yet been staffed. The fires remain active, even at night when strong, gusty down-canyon and down-slopes winds fan the flames. Firefighters rappelling from helicopters into the Belden Fire are being removed due to intensified fire behavior. There is a bulldozer rollover accident and the operator is evacuated with injuries. Contingency plans are being



Await caption

developed for structure protection, protecting the power stations and railroad out ahead of the fires, and the Incident Management Team and the forest are developing long-term strategy.

American River Complex (Tahoe National Forest): The American River Complex grows by 1,112 acres today to 5,292 acres as the Government Springs Fire makes a run on its northwest corner. Firefighters are trying to delay spread of the fire until indirect lines can be completed. The American River Complex continues to threaten the Interstate 80 corridor, the Union Pacific Railroad, and the community of Blue Canyon. Cost of closing the railroad has been estimated at \$1,000,000 per hour. Difficult terrain requires the use of remote spike camps, making logistical support difficult.

Yuba River Complex (Tahoe National Forest): The 3,619 acre Yuba River Complex includes three fires and is 78% contained. Although the Scotchman Fire continues to spread in the Canyon Creek and Yuba River drainages, good progress is being made by firefighters who indicate that they have enough resources to continue making progress under current burning conditions.

Silver Complex (Sierra National Forest): The Silver Complex includes two fires twelve miles southeast of

Mariposa. Fire activity is moderate with only 50 more acres burning today, bringing the total to 1,161 acres with 95% containment.

Mad Complex (Six Rivers National Forest): The 2,633 acre Mad Complex originally contained 29 fires.

Twenty three of these are contained, leaving six active fires. The Bonanza fire is burning in steep terrain with difficult access. Anchor points are being established for an indirect attack strategy. Fire managers are concerned about the fires on neighboring lands that could potentially spread into this area adversely affecting firefighter safety. Some fires remained unstaffed and containment is now 40%.

Hell's Half Complex (Six Rivers National Forest): The two fires in this complex near Burnt Ranch continue to spread south and the east. The Half Fire has burned into the Shasta-Trinity National Forest and is nearing structures. The Grouse Fire is threatening a major power line. The fires total of 2,793 acres and are 40% contained. Good progress is being made, but the potential for significant runs by both fires remains high.

Ukonom Complex (Six Rivers National Forest): The 3 fires in the Ukonom Complex (Merrill, Jake, and Blue), north of Somes Bar on the grow by about 474 acres today to a total of 6,358 acres. The Blue Fire, in the headwaters of Blue Creek is difficult to access, but holding operations seem successful. Fire managers are trying to minimize the impact that the fire and suppression efforts have on Native American spiritual sites and the Forest Service facilities at Oak Bottom, and are developing a long-term implementation plan. Containment is only at 5%.

Corral Fire (CALFIRE's Lassen-Modoc Unit): The 15,000 acre Corral Fire is burning actively about 10 miles north of Eagle Lake. Burning eastside mixed conifer (small to medium-sized trees) with grass and brush understory, the fire exhibits rapid rates of spread, erratic fire behavior and spotting over control lines in the late afternoon gusty winds. Containment is 25%, but the continuing shortage of hand crews and dozer bosses is a concern as the fire continued to burn actively through the night.

Need Image

MILITARY AIRCRAFT

From a great distance you hear the throbbing roar of its four huge Wright Cyclone radial engines, each capable of producing 2,500 horsepower.

Then, you see what looks like the hull of a large boat hung below two expansive wings with unusual objects hanging under the wingtips. As it slowly gets nearer it appears to grow, until it passes overhead and you realize that is one REALLY BIG airplane! It is the Martin Mars flying boat, the largest floatplane ever used operationally. There are only two of the original six of these behemoths still in flying condition. Operated by Coulson Aircrane, Ltd. of Port Alberni,

BC, Canada, every summer they deliver tons of water or retardant to fires throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Designed as a long-range, heavy bomber and anti-submarine patrol aircraft for the U. S. Navy, the giant floatplanes accumulated more than 87,000 accident-free hours before being retired by the Navy in 1956. With a wingspan of 200 feet, a length of 120 feet, and a gross weight of 162,000 lbs., the Mars lumbers through the skies at 190 mph.

The big plane skims along the ocean or lake surface at 60-70 knots, scooping up 7,200 gallons of water in about 25 seconds. The four-person crew then increases thrust to takeoff power and the huge water bomber climbs.

A lead plane scouts safe routes to and from the fire and water source. It covers nearly four acres on each run. The "Hawaii Mars" spends almost two months in California in 2008, where it operates on several fires.

Cub Complex (Lassen National Forest): Two of four fires in the 5,000 acre Cub Complex, 16 miles southwest of Chester, are contained and turned back to the Forest for patrol. Two fires remain active, the Cub Fire and Onion Fire. Short uphill runs and spotting up to ¼ mile are common today with an additional 668 acres burned. Because of location and limited resource availability, the Cub Fire remains unstaffed and fire managers note it’s potential to become a long-term event. Highway 32 remains closed. The complex is 25% contained.

Yolla Bolly Complex (Mendocino National Forest): The Yolla Bolly Complex originally included 22 fires within the Yolla Bolly Wilderness Area. Thirteen are contained, and the Camp Fire is contained today. The Frying Pan and Vinegar fires merge. Two new fires are detected, smokejumpers contained one, but the second fire is unstaffed. Three fires (Harvey Ridge, Thomes, and the new Sugarloaf) are very active today, with running and spotting fire behavior. Today an additional 2,203 acres burn, bringing the total to 6,103 acres with 5% containment.

Clover Fire (Sequoia National Forest): The Clover Fire, 32 miles north of Weldon, continues to back and creep within the containment lines. It totals 15,262 acres and is 70% contained, but full containment is not expected until July 15th due to difficult terrain.

Siskiyou Complex (Klamath National Forest): The three Siskiyou Complex fires, are burning in steep, inaccessible terrain, southwest of Happy Camp. The fires are well established with potential for significant growth over an extended timeframe. The strategy is to merge these fires by constructing and burning out indirect hand lines along existing trails. Potential size is estimated at 40,000 acres. Today’s 2,203 acres increased the total to 9,915 acres burned with 25% containment, all on the Dark-Three Fire.

Alps Complex (Shasta-Trinity National Forest): The Alps Complex in the Trinity Alps Wilderness Area originally contained 13 fires. Four are contained, and five are unstaffed. Fire behavior intensifies as the inversion layer lifts. Some fires are in such steep terrain and heavy fuels that firefighters cannot approach them.



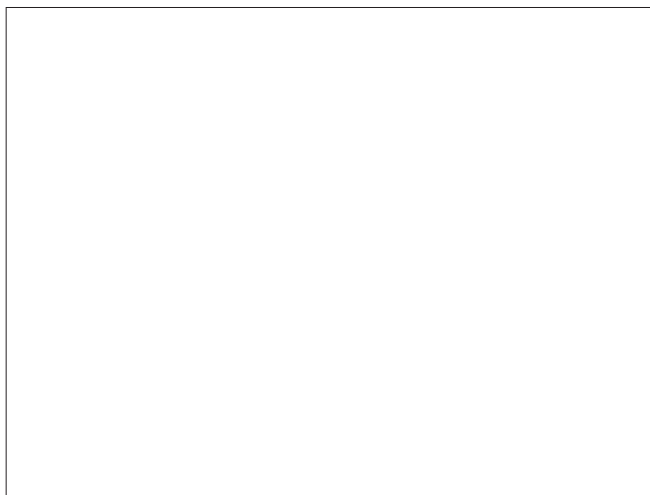
HOMEOWNER RESPONSIBILITIES

New home construction requires ignition-resistant building materials to meet the new building and fire code regulations that apply to much of the wildland-urban interface where

homes are at risk from wildfires. Existing homes near wildlands should provide clearance around the home from flammable materials. Current regulations require a minimum 30-foot clearance around structures in the state’s wildland areas, with up to 100-foot clearance required in the high and very high fire hazard areas that make up the WUI. These regulations do not require removal of all vegetation around homes, but treatment of the vegetation, reducing its volume, flammability and proximity to the

house. Properly-pruned and appropriately sited trees and shrubs can be left to retain a desirable landscape. Homeowners are asked to locate firewood stacks and other flammable objects (RV’s, automobiles, etc.) at least 30 feet from the house, as these have been shown to ignite nearby houses once they catch fire. Each year, the wildland fire agencies make fire prevention inspections educating homeowners and enforcing regulations, but some homeowners fail to provide the

“defensible space” necessary to ensure the protection of their homes. Some residents insist that there is no need to provide the clearance themselves, as fire fighters will do it for them before the fire gets there. While fire crews may indeed make such efforts when the time allows, it is foolish to plan on it, as there are more houses in the woods than fire engines. For more information on clearance requirements to achieve defensible space see: www.fire.co.gov or www.firesafecouncil.org.



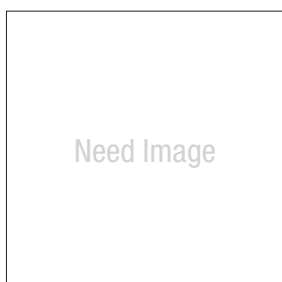
Await caption

Long-term strategy is being developed employing an indirect attack, using the existing trail system and

natural barriers. Today 595 acres burn and the complex totals 3,245 acres with 2% containment.

Soda Complex (Mendocino National Forest): The Soda Complex includes four fires located about 15 miles northwest of Upper Lake. The Back Fire is contained. The western flank of the Mill Fire is burning into the Sanhedrin Wilderness Area and poised to merge with the Big Fire. The Monkey Rock Fire is burning in the Yuki Wilderness Area and has no containment. High recreational activity is noted in the area of these fires. The complex is now 5,100 acres with 72% containment, but potential for growth is rated as high.

Regional Chief Officers and CAL MAC are concerned about maintaining an adequate reserve of forces for initial attack in the face of predicted thunderstorms and the remainder of a long fire season still ahead.



MENDOCINO REDWOOD COMPANY TAKES INDEPENDENT ACTION

Mendocino Redwood Company (MRC) owns and manages 228,000 acres of forest lands in Mendocino and Sonoma Counties. Most of it in the coast redwood belt on the west side of Mendocino County.

The 2008 June Lightning Siege hits MRC hard, with several wildfires starting on its Mendocino County lands. So

many fires are burning at the time that CAL FIRE forces are totally committed to their first priority, protecting life and improved property. Realizing that fires burning remote timberlands and not threatening populated areas are low priority, MRC takes independent action early in the siege. MRC foresters make initial assessments of the fires on company lands and provide input for fire suppression planning to company resource managers.

The company commits a high percentage of its personnel and equipment to fire control operations. They hire additional resources, including 50 pieces of heavy equipment from 17 private logging contractors, a heavy helicopter, and contract fire crews from Grayback Forestry and

Patrick Environmental to fight fires on MRC land. Close coordination and constant communication with CAL FIRE is maintained throughout the siege, ensuring mutual support during critical operations.

As the fires near populated areas are controlled and more suppression resources arrive, government fire resources become available. The fires on MRC timberlands begin to receive resources, including CAL FIRE and mutual aid fire engines and hand crews, as well as National Guard fire crews. A gradual transition of command from MRC to CAL FIRE takes place, with MRC resource managers continuing to represent the company's interests in an advisory role.

Over 23,000 of the nearly 55,000 acres that burn in the Mendocino Complex, are MRC timberlands. Aggressive, independent, and coordinated action by Mendocino Redwood Company kept acreage totals lower than what was expected. The cooperative relationship allows CAL FIRE's Mendocino Unit (MEU) to focus its scarce resources on the protection of life and property in populated areas, while receiving continuous reports on the more remote fires. Mendocino Redwood Company stands out as an example of responsible timberland management and cooperation.

*The scale of the fire
fighting effort requires
extraordinary efforts
and cooperation
between a number
of organizations.*



Siege Summary Part 4: July 2- August 5

The 2008 June Fire Siege continues until the fall rains come for some of the complexes. The remaining portion of this report highlights the significant events that occur during the next 34 days. During this time period a critical wind event causes a major expansion of all fires, and additional lightning ignites more fires. This segment is marked by severe tragedy with 13 firefighter fatalities directly related to the fires.

The fires continue to disrupt everyday life in the affected communities. Evacuations are initiated and rescinded, and smoke becomes a long term impact to health. Many 4th of July celebrations and other special events are impacted, along with tourism, travel, health and air quality. Life does not go on as usual.

The scale of the fire fighting effort requires extraordinary efforts and cooperation between a growing number of organizations. Fire fighting resources have now been working for 10 plus days and fatigue is beginning to become a factor. Fire managers are concerned about firefighter health and safety.

There is an exceptional response by local fire departments from throughout California assisting in the fire fight. Additional California National Guard are activated for training and deployment, Department of Defense air resources become involved, along with activation of international cooperative agreements.

To emphasize the importance of the effort and recognize the dedication of those involved, it is important to note that the Governor continues to visit the fires and President Bush visits with firefighters. Regional Chief Officers and CAL MAC must maintain an adequate reserve of initial attack forces in the face of predicted thunderstorms and remain prepared for the remainder of a long fire season still ahead.

We end the detailed discussion of the 2008 June Siege Summary on August 5 with the tragedy of the helicopter crash that takes the lives of 9 firefighters. These fires do not end on August 5th, but for practical purposes, the siege ends and the remaining fires start to blend into the other fires of a busy wildfire season.

Need Image

WORK/REST GUIDELINES

July 3: The National Wildfire Coordinating Group, representing the federal and state wildfire organizations, developed a set of work/rest and length-of-

assignment guidelines that are adopted by the federal wildfire agencies. Each state has its own set of work/rest and length-of-assignment standards.

While the standards suggest some differences in the implementation of fatigue mitigation actions and how incident personnel are compensated during ongoing incidents, the health and safety of incident personnel remains the top priority across the board. Everyone is responsible for ensuring that the health and

safety of incident personnel is not compromised under any circumstance.

Work/Rest Periods

Most state and federal guidelines have adopted a 2:1 work to rest ratio as the standard. This means for every two hours of work or travel, one hour of time off should be provided within a 24-hour period regardless of when the 24-hour period starts.

However there is some flexibility to exceed 16 hours of work or

travel within a 24-hour period under certain circumstances, such as initial attack, extended attack, and large fires.

Within the federal government, work shifts that exceed the 2:1 ratio must be justified and documented, along with the mitigation measures taken to reduce fatigue.

For CAL FIRE, fire resource time is based on 24-hour shifts.

Therefore exceeding the 2:1 ratio is not necessarily documented. Although it remains critically

Wednesday, July 2
The Gap Fire

The Gap Fire started yesterday in Santa Barbara County, and quickly becomes the top priority for resources. Structures are threatened when “sundowner” (Santa Barbara’s version of Santa Ana) winds push the fire downhill from the mountains to the outskirts of Goleta and Santa Barbara. Resources originally are re-directed from Northern California Siege fires to the Gap Fire.

Thursday, July 3
The First Life Lost

Less than two weeks into the siege, Governor Schwarzenegger acknowledges concern about the hazard of fatigue associated with the long days that firefighters were working.

“I think that they all are doing a great job, but the danger is that our firefighters get stretched thin. A lot of them are working overtime and they are staying up for more than 12 hours, sometimes 24 hours, 36 hours. So we have to be very careful that they get enough

sleep and this is also why we have asked the National Guard to provide us with 200 extra personnel.”

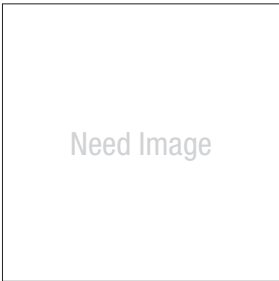
To bring some relief to fire fighters, CAL FIRE is able to order FEMA resources to work on incidents in counties that have received the Presidential declaration of disaster. FEMA resources are assigned to CAL FIRE for suppression efforts in BTU, SHU, and MEU. BTU has the largest number of resources assigned.

Two days after the Governor’s statement, Volunteer Fire Fighter (VFF) recruit Bob Roland, 63, of Anderson Valley, CA passes away during the early morning of July 3, 2008 after suffering fatigue and respiratory difficulties. He was assigned to the Oso Fire in the Mendocino Lightning Complex.

The North Mountain Fire is contained today at 2,889 acres.

Friday, July 4
Fires Hamper Holiday Events

Independence Day dawns cool and clear, as a southwesterly nighttime wind has allowed the marine layer to move inland. Fire behavior on the west side of



NATIVE AMERICAN SITES

July 4: There are 123 federally recognized Native American tribes in California. Many tribes have culturally sensitive lands in the forest with some sites still used for religious practices. The

Blue 2 Fire and Siskiyou, Ukonom, and Iron-Alps Complexes threaten cultural and spiritual areas of the Yurok, Karuk, Tolowa and Hoopa tribes. In fact, the Ukonom Complex threatens the only known fully intact Karuk spiritual site. Meanwhile sacred lands of the Yurok (Siskiyou Complex) and Hoopa (Carey Fire in the Iron-Alps Complex) are threatened by the fires.

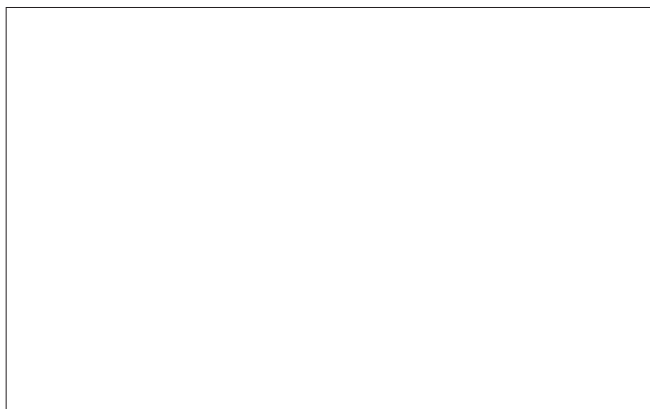
The Yurok, whose name means “downriver people” and Karuk, whose name means “upriver

people,” together with the Hoopa, form a distinct ethnographic group in northwest California. Although they have distinct languages, each Tribe has cultural lands and prayer sites within the area, and practice very similar rituals and ceremonies. Rituals include the brush dance, jump dance, and white deerskin dance.

Past experience with damage to culturally significant areas from suppression tactics, heighten the tribes concerns during the 2008 June Fire Siege. For example, bulldozers caused damage to

Hoopa sacred lands during the 1999 Meagram Fire, and westward spread of the Carey Fire threatens to move into this same area.

Through formal agreements with the Forest Service, the Yurok, Karuk, and Hoopa tribes have designated tribal representatives to work with Incident Management Teams ensuring Native American cultural sites are protected. The tribal representatives scout areas in the vicinity of a fire to determine whether there is evidence of Native American use.



Await caption

the Central Valley moderates and crews are able to make significant progress. The TGU complex is declared contained at 22,907 acres.

The impact of fire and fire suppression activity keeps three major highways closed, impacting holiday traffic. The Cub Complex closes Highway 32, inconveniencing thousands of people attending a Fourth of July celebration in Chester. Similar frustrations occur with the continuing Highway 70 closure for thousands of people attending a music festival in Quincy. The Iron/Alps Complex burns on both sides of over 5 miles of Highway 299, causing intermittent closures. Highway 1 is closed around Big Sur. Closure of these major transportation routes is contributing to the large scale economic impact, and particularly to seasonal businesses depending on tourism during the holiday.

Many Northern California communities cancel or postpone traditional firework show due to limited visibility, and high fire danger. At the Corral Fire, a Fourth of July Parade is held at the Incident Base. Fire personnel, including the vendors, participate in the parade and are treated to a simulated fireworks display. Chemical light sticks and vehicle emergency warning lights provide the visual effects. The great attitudes and imaginations make the holiday enjoyable.

Other special events and significant ceremonies are affected by the siege as well. Fires on the Six Rivers

National Forest limit access to the Yurok and Karuk tribe's ceremonial grounds. One major Karuk ceremony is cancelled, and a Yurok ceremony is almost cancelled by the fires.

The Governor announces that he is doubling the California National Guard ground forces deploying to Northern California Wildfires. Two hundred soldiers are deployed on Tuesday and today he orders another 200 to begin reporting on Sunday.

Major General William H. Wade states "we're doing something that we heretofore have not done and that is to take our soldiers and put them on the fire line. We've always used our unique military capabilities in other ways with MPs, truck drivers, cooks, fighting fires from the air with our pilots, but this is something different. Exigent circumstances require extraordinary response measures and that's what we're about to do with this first time ever commitment of National Guard forces to actually fight on the fire lines."

Saturday and Sunday, July 5 - 6 **Inversion Helps Fire Fighters**

An inversion moves over the fires continuing to moderate fire behavior. This gives personnel the opportunity to make progress and secure constructed fire line. Aircraft is limited by the smoke and unable to support ground operations.

The Oliver Fire is contained at 2,789 acres and Regional Chief Officers are hopeful that the increased containment on some of the complexes indicates the worst is over. Precautionary evacuations of the Magalia area on the Butte Complex are lifted and some engines, water tenders and dozers are being reassigned to other fires or home for rest.

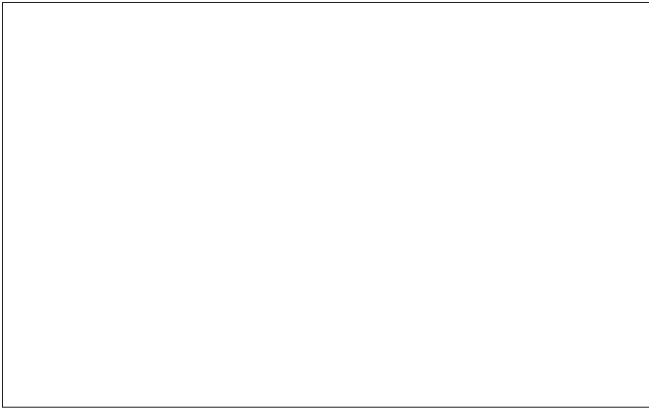
SOCAL MAC is convened in Riverside, California in anticipation of increased fire activity as an extreme heat event develops across California.

Monday–Thursday, July 7-10
Critical Wind Event

The Corral Fire is contained on July 7 at 12,434 acres. The Blue Fire (SRF) that was previously incorporated into the Ukonom Complex is now separated from the complex and prioritized as an individual fire known as the Blue 2 Fire.

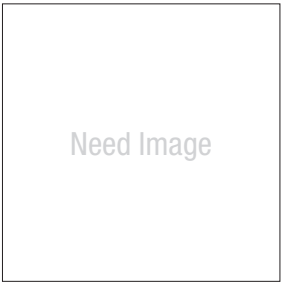
Fire activity does not moderate for long; July 7-10 brings an extremely critical foehn wind event. It coincides with a record breaking heat wave and very low relative humidity. These winds produce the last big increases in acreage. Red flag warnings are issued as temperatures reach 115 degrees with minimum relative humidity inland ranging from 5-16%. Foehn wind events of this magnitude and duration are uncommon during July in Northern California.

Demobilization of resources on the Butte Complex is discontinued on July 7 with predicted winds. On July 8, strong east winds surface in the early morning hours, blowing down the Feather River Canyon. On the Butte Complex, the Camp Fire exhibits sustained runs, with spotting, torching, and crowning on both



Await caption

flanks. The burned area increases by 17,000 acres in one day. The giant convection column is readily visible on weather satellite images. By mid-morning there are reports of 10-15 structures destroyed in the Concow area. The threat of fire crossing the West Branch of the Feather River necessitates evacuations in communities of Magalia and Paradise Pines. This is the third time this summer that these communities have been under evacuation orders.



RESPONSES TO
SMOKE IMPACTS

July 5: The 2008 June Fire Siege produces a widespread siege of smoke, with the greatest impact on communities located in places

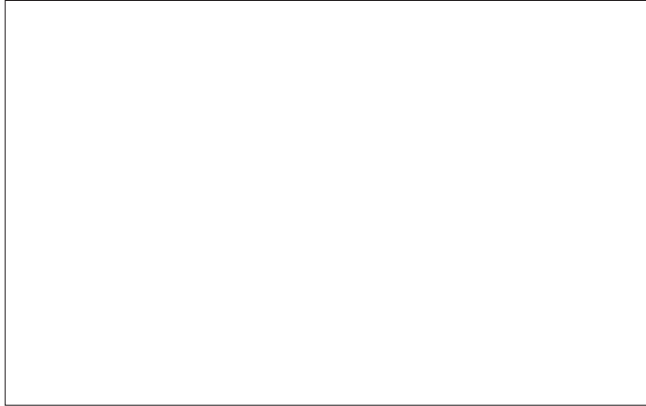
where topography traps smoke particles. Poor air quality prompts deployment of mobile monitoring systems, frequent air quality advisories, and a formal Hoopa Valley Tribal Council request to the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors to declare a state of emergency based on the public health threat from prolonged smoke exposure.

HVAC filters for a normal month (L) and a week of wildfires (R).

Responding to the smoke impacts, the Hoopa Valley Tribe

declares a local state of emergency, activating an incident management organization. By mid-July, the K'ima:w Medical Center has seen 133 patients for smoke related health problems; 100 people are relocated to reduce further smoke inhalation, and HEPA air filters are purchased for residents with severe respiratory conditions. The Tribe sets up clean air facilities at the community center gym and the senior nutrition center. Some residents who are

experiencing respiratory difficulty during this year's siege, had pre-existing conditions attributed to smoke exposure during the 1999 Megram Fire. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, studied the effects of smoke exposure on Hoopa residents in 1999. K'ima:w Medical Center Director Eva Smith points out that there is no research on the long-term or cumulative effects of smoke exposure over time. The Hoopa Valley Tribe is included in the



Await caption

The nearby Canyon Complex, is also affected by the east winds. An immediate evacuation order is issued for the area southeast of Lake Madrone. Fires in this complex burn an additional 4,708 acres.

On the Shasta Complex, the Mary Fire in the Whiskeytown Complex merges with the Moon Fire. It makes a rapid run, threatening the communities of Ono and Igo and prompting evacuations. The nearby Motion Fire spreads to the south and southwest threatening structures in the communities of Keswick and Shasta. Large numbers of engines are diverted

from other assignments to provide structure protection for the threatened communities.

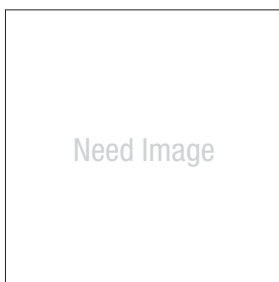
The American River Complex also experiences a significant setback, as the Government Springs Fire, is active on three flanks under the influence of strong easterly winds.

The Basin Complex displays extreme fire behavior with group tree torching, spotting, and short duration crown runs. The fire increases in size by 5,531 acres necessitating the evacuation of Big Sur and the closure of U.S. Highway 1. The Martin Mars airtanker diverts from Lake Shasta to the Basin Fire and operates from Lake San Antonio.

Tuesday, July 8

International Assistance

International support is offered by Australia, New Zealand, Canada and Mexico. Fire fighters from Greece, already in California are engaged in suppression activities. Amidst the critical wind event, firefighters from Australia and New Zealand depart for the Interagency Fire Center in Boise for orientation before deploying to California. Some of these



INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE: AUSSIES, KIWIS, AND CANUCKS

July 8: The 2008 June Fire Siege receives an impressive level of assistance from outside of the United States.

Forty-five experienced wildland fire specialists from Australia and New Zealand are deployed to fill critical mid-level supervisory and management positions on Siege fires. Following briefing and orientation, they are assigned as Strike Team Leaders, Division Supervisors, Helicopter managers, and other specialists. They provide experienced leadership to the hand and aircraft crews that are in California from all over North America.

Fourteen wildland fire specialists, and two hand crews, from Canada

are deployed to siege fires. The Canadian crews and overhead are experienced fighting fires in steep, rugged, heavily-forested terrain. Climate and burning conditions in much of Australia, New Zealand, and Canada are comparable to California. Common language, similar command structures, and cross-training make the experience of the "Aussies", "Kiwis" and "Canucks" highly useful.

This is not the first time that reciprocal agreements are utilized, allowing the United

States to cooperate with Canada, Australia, and New Zealand to provide assistance during large fire emergencies. During the fire seasons of 2000, 2002, 2003, and 2006 firefighters from Australia and New Zealand provide resources to fires in the United States. In 2003 and 2009, US firefighters journeyed to Australia to lend a hand during devastating bush fires. In 2006, US fire overhead and crews journeyed across the border to help with fires in Canada. In 2007, bomberos (firefighters) from

firefighters remain for up to thirty days.

Meanwhile, a Canadian overhead team of 15 fires specialists is deployed to the Mendocino Complex. An order is placed to Canada for air tankers. Aviation managers work through Customs issues for entry into United States airspace. Once in California they inspect and card the aircraft for use.

Wednesday, July 9

Governor Requests Additional Federal Resources

Responding to earlier gubernatorial requests, the Federal Government (FEMA resources) helps California as 40 other states send firefighters, fire engines and other resources. In preparation for additional lightning and anticipating the rest of fire season, Governor Schwarzenegger sends the following letter to President Bush requesting federal active duty military forces, out of state federal firefighters to train National Guard forces, and an increase the “Maximum Efficiency Level” (MEL) for the U.S. Forest Service to 100 percent.

Dear Mr. President,

As you know, California is in the midst of battling unprecedented wildfires that have stretched our state’s firefighting resources to their limit and placed thousands of Californians in immediate danger. On the heels of lightning storms in June that ignited more than 1,700 fires across the state, we now face extremely high temperatures and increased fuel loads that are exacerbating fire conditions and putting our communities and firefighters and other first responders at risk. With more lightning storms forecast for later this week, we sit at a critical tipping point in California that requires immediate federal help and aggressive pre-positioning of federal resources.

As of July 8, 2008 California had placed requests for the following assets with the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) in Boise, Idaho: 302 hand crews; 41 helicopters; 616 fire engines; and 773 support personnel. In addition, we are calling on NIFC daily

for additional air tankers that are critical to suppressing the flames. These numbers change daily based on the current fire status; I ask that you direct your federal agencies, working through the NIFC, to make all requested assets available to California...

Thursday, July 10

Governor Visits Shasta Complex

Record heat and critically low humidity continue. Temperatures of 100-115 degrees are recorded across the interior below 2000 ft elevation, and extend to within a few miles of the ocean. Red Flag Warnings are in effect for most of Northern California through Friday morning. Heat related illness affect suppression efforts on numerous complexes.

The Governor visits the Shasta Complex today and comments on the cooperation of all agencies. He states, “The way we fight those fires is if everyone works together. And I think that the world has seen how we handle emergencies in California. They’ve seen how well we handle it because we coordinate well between the state, the locals and the federal government and how well that the fire officials and law enforcement officials work together...”

Despite the critical weather the past three days, the Indians Fire is contained today at 81,378 acres.

Friday, July 11

Civilian Fatality and Increased National Guard Mobilization

Today officials disclose that the body of a civilian fire victim was found in the smoldering remains of a house in the Concow area on the Butte Complex. The victim is later identified as Van Scott West, 61 of Concow.

Governor Schwarzenegger orders an additional 2,000 California National Guard troops to train for firefighting duties. The fire agencies increase the training effort and initiate a nationwide search for qualified military fire crew leaders to accompany each crew of soldiers. The training consists of three days of

classroom training on basic wildland firefighting and safety. The 10 (20-person) crews then move outdoors for two days of intensive training before deployment to a fire assignment.

The additional trained troops would be ready to respond to new fires as the fire season continues.

Saturday, July 12

Flash Flood in Southern California

The weather affects firefighting efforts again with the arrival of monsoonal rain over the southern portion of the state. The system arrives over the region on July 12th and remains in place until the 17th producing 2 to 4 inches of rain. The reduced fire activity proves beneficial to firefighters.

The Piute Fire in Kern County receives 4 inches of rain in two days, leading to serious flooding but also effectively extinguishing the blaze. Flash floods concern fire officers and firefighters are removed from the fire before access is severed.

The Mad Complex is contained at 3,705 acres.

Sunday–Wednesday, July 13–16

Critical Infrastructure Repairs

Sustained efforts and good weather are continuing to produce more successes. On July 14, the Humboldt Complex is contained at 1,325 acres and the Whiskeytown Complex at 6,240 acres. Then on July 15, the Yuba River Complex is contained at 4,254 acres. The total number of Siege complexes still being prioritized is down to 16 from 32.

Railroad lines are strongly impacted by the Siege. The Government Springs Fire on the American River Complex, is contained before direct contact with the rail lines. To protect their asset, Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) brings in a fire train for protection of the tracks. They estimate the economic impact of shutting this major rail line would be \$1,000,000 per hour.

Fires in the Butte and Canyon complexes directly impact the UPRR line in the Feather River Canyon. The line closes for many days. Suppression personnel on the Butte Complex work with UPRR when Tunnel #15 caught on fire. UPRR is successful in

Need Image

ILLEGAL AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

July 10: One of the problems that wildland firefighters encounter is illegal agricultural operations. Despite the efforts of specialized law enforcement units, the illegal

growing of marijuana is big business in the woods.

Marijuana farms take advantage of our national forests and parks to raise the high profit crop using free soil and water. Plants are frequently guarded by people who are dressed in camouflage and often armed, with orders to protect the crop from intruders. During the 2008 June Fire Siege, firefighters encounter pot farmers, sometimes with humorous, and sometimes with near tragic results.

A CAL FIRE firefighter, alone in a pickup, was confirming the report of lightning fires in an area of Mendocino County known for its alternative agricultural enterprises. Arriving at one of the fires, burning adjacent to the road, the firefighter was met by a grower with a portable water tank and a coil of black plastic water pipe. They hooked up the pipe and quickly extinguished the small roadside fire. Another fire was burning farther down the slope, and the grower acknowledged he didn't have enough pipe to reach

it. About this time, a second grower, similarly equipped, arrived and offered his services. By hooking the two lengths of pipe together, this ad hoc fire crew had enough reach to extinguish the second fire.

On the Motion Fire in Shasta County, a burnout operation traps the guards of a well-camouflaged farm. Some of the guards suffered serious burns, are treated by firefighters and transported to a hospital.

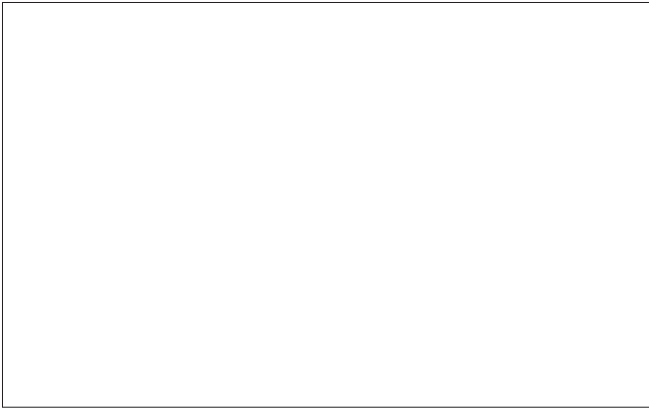
extinguishing the fire without the need for fire engines assigned to the fire line being redirected to the tunnel.

The power infrastructure (lines and generation facilities) is impacted by many Siege fires. The power companies are making repairs to restore power as soon as fire officials allow. On July 12, a Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) employee repairing power infrastructure damaged by the Camp Fire, Butte complex, is injured and transported to the hospital. The Cedar Fire (Iron Complex) affected four to five miles of PG&E transmission line.

Thursday, July 17
Presidential Visit

President George W. Bush arrives in Redding and tours the North Operations Coordination Center and meets the employees who make the movement of personnel, resources and aircraft happen.

Accompanied by Governor Schwarzenegger, Senator Feinstein, and Congressman Herger, the President flies over the Shasta Complex fires and meets with firefighters. He visits the Redding Smokejumpers who



Await caption

are having a record breaking year. With 616 jumps by mid-July, they set a new record for the number of jumps in one year. One individual had over 600 career jumps. He also meets with Boy Scouts who are working on a Healthy Forest Initiative project to reduce fuels.

Governor Schwarzenegger comments on the President’s rapid response from the federal agencies and the cooperative efforts recognizing that 80 percent of the United States firefighting resources are in California.



CNG (CALIFORNIA
NATIONAL GUARD)
ASSETS BATTLE
WILDFIRES

July 11: The CNG, with support from National Guard personnel and equipment from other states,

provides 12 rotary-wing aircraft, eight fixed-wing aircraft and hundreds of personnel to assist in extinguishing the 2008 June Fire Siege.

CNG Air Support

The Eight CNG helicopters include five UH-60 Blackhawks, one UH-70 Firehawk, one CH-47 Chinook, and one OH-58 Kiowa. Four helicopters are also provided from other states. The CNG provides the following fixed-wing aircraft in support of the wildfires: one

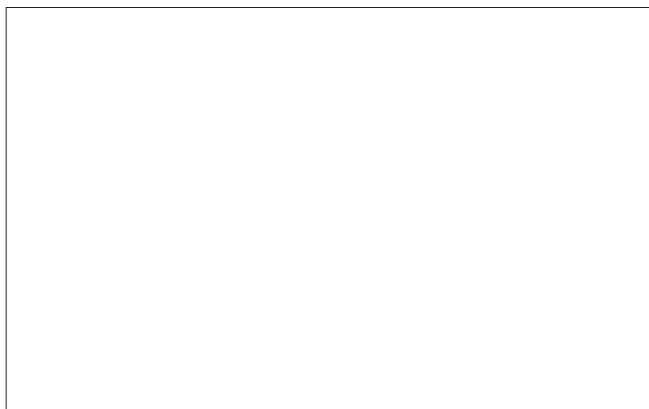
C-130J for personnel and equipment transport, and two RC-26 aircraft for aerial imagery. The North Carolina Air National Guard, the California Air National Guard, the Wyoming Air National Guard, and the Air Force Reserve are each providing two C-130H aircraft outfitted with the Modular Airborne Fire Fighting Systems (MAFFS). Each of these aircraft carries up to 3,000 gallons of fire retardant in a pressurized tank system that allows the retardant to offload in an even flow, preventing gaps in

the retardant line.

With the aircraft, the CNG provides two advanced mobile communications and data platforms (IC4U) to assist with command and control of operations in remote areas, one Heavy Expanded Mobile Tactical Truck for refueling, and a 5,000 gallon water tender.

CNG Team Dozer

“Team Dozer” is one of the first ground elements from the CNG to respond as part of the Operation Lightning Strikes



Await caption

Friday, July 18

Demobilization and Redeployment

With several of the Complexes reaching containment the fire chief officers in the MAC groups begins planning for demobilization and redeployment. The long fire season ahead is still a driving factor in assuring “ready reserve forces for new fires”. Discussions focus on maintenance of the logistical support for incident bases and the distribution center for the months of containment, mop-up, and recovery efforts still ahead.

CALMAC begins the planned release of the MAFFS airtankers back to their home bases. The military helicopters provided by the Navy and Marine Corps are also released.

Sunday, July 20

The Fire Fight Continues

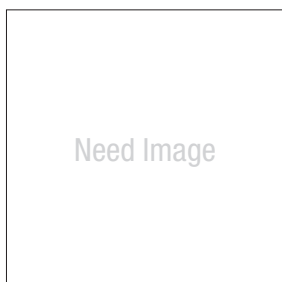
The Mill Fire (Soda Complex) in the Sanhedrin Wilderness Area crosses protection boundaries. A Unified Command is established between the Mendocino National Forest and the Mendocino Unit of CAL FIRE.

A south-southeast wind on the Bear Wallow Complex, pushes the Caribou Fire north, with spotting up to ¼ mile. One spot fire burns 30 acres.

Mandatory evacuation orders are lifted in the area affected by the Motion Fire (Shasta Complex).

A main concern on the Lime Complex is road closures and construction activities on Hyampom Road as firefighters are conducting burnout operations.

The Cub fire is contained at 19,718 acres.



PIUTE FIRE/ FLOOD EVENT

July 12: An influx of monsoonal moisture to the Piute Mountain Range leads to thunderstorm development and significant rainfall over the Piute Fire. On

July 12th, locally intense rain falls on portions of the fire resulting in flash flooding in the Erskine Creek and Thompson Creek drainages. Road access washes out, stranding approximately 60 firefighters for the night in the upper end of Erskine Creek. The following morning dozers are sent in to open the road allowing their exit.

The afternoon of the 13th brings more rain, and the automated rain gauge on Piute Peak recorded 3.2 inches of rain for that day alone. Several local roads are

closed, and some residents along Erskine Creek are evacuated by a hoist rescue from Kern County Fire Helicopter 408. Unsettled weather continues through July 16th, with Piute Peak receiving a total of 5.16 inches of rain during the 5 day period.

Although the Piute Flood Incident was managed by Kern County Fire Department separately from the Piute Fire, resources were shared in order to minimize the damage and mitigate the danger to the citizens in the impacted areas.

These included a strike team of engines, dozers, hand crews, and a helicopter.

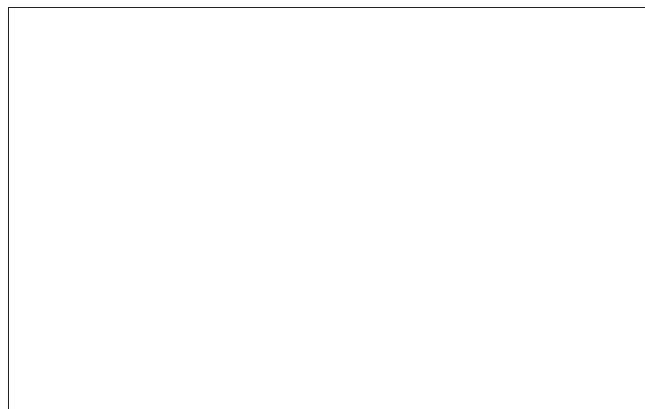
There were no injuries reported due to the flooding, but numerous roads, structures, and other improvements are damaged. The primary damage is located in the Kelso Creek, Erskine Creek, and Thompson Creek areas. Flooding and/or mudslides are anticipated to be a problem downstream from the fire for the next few years. On the plus side, however, the rain brought a quick end to the Piute Fire.

Monday–Thursday, July 21-24**Additional Lightning**

On Monday, scattered thunderstorms are predicted for Northern California and eastern Oregon with drier air following behind the storms. The Regional Chief Officers deploy additional heavy helicopters in the northeastern part of the state in preparation for new fires. By afternoon many of the fire complexes in Northern California are extremely active, and the convection columns from the Lime Complex fires are clearly visible from Redding. Additional resources to meet anticipated needs were coming available as several of the complexes were nearing full containment.

By Wednesday, many of the large fires report active burning with continued threats to communities. The Basin Complex near Big Sur displays active fire behavior with backing, upslope runs and isolated torching. Voluntary evacuations and road closures remain in effect. The Basin Complex reaches 142,617 acres burned with 72% containment. Of the 4 active fires within the Iron and Alps Complexes (SHF), the Cedar Fire is once again threatening structures in the communities of Del Loma and Big Bar with mandatory evacuation orders in effect for communities along the Highway 299 corridor. Communities along the Trinity River are threatened and evacuated numerous times beginning June 25th. Evacuations recur in July due to threats from various fires within the Iron Complex. Low visibility, due to smoke, is limiting the use of aircraft. The Iron and Alps Complexes have burned 68,292 and are 62% contained. The Lime Complex (Shasta-Trinity National Forest) has 10 uncontained fires, continues to burn in heavy fuels and rugged terrain and is 65% contained at 130,936 acres. Progress is expected to remain slow.

Of 174 new fire starts that occurred throughout California during this period (July 21 – July 24) only one, the Panther Fire, has escaped initial attack.



Await caption

Located 15 miles south of Happy Camp, it starts by lightning on July 24 and burns in steep terrain and heavy timber. Fire fighting resources from the Siskiyou Complex provide an initial attack response. By afternoon it has burned more than 100 acres and is 16% contained. This new fire on the Klamath National Forest will take the life of one firefighter.

Addressing firefighter safety and fatigue remains the highest priority for regional fire chiefs as they develop strategies to rotate and rest fire personnel. Many engine crews, strike teams, and overhead personnel have been assigned to the siege for more than a month; some firefighters have been away from home for more than 50 days.

As part of the California National Guard's response to the Governor's order for an additional 2,000 National Guard personnel to boost firefighting forces, 240 members of Taskforce Shovel are assigned to assist with mop-up and patrol of the Ironside, Ziegler, and Denny Fires on the Iron/Alps Complexes.

Friday, July 25**Fire Fighter Fatality**

On July 25, 2008 Andrew Jackson Palmer, an 18 year old a firefighter at Olympic National Park in Washington, is fatally injured when he is struck by a falling tree. Palmer's engine crew was assigned to the Iron

Complex (SHF) as a falling team to remove hazard trees along the fireline ahead of mop-up crews.

The Telegraph Fire, a human-caused fire, started today in Mariposa County.

The Shasta Lightning Complex was contained at 86,500 acres. The Piute Fire is contained at 37,026 acres.

Saturday, July 26

A Second Fire Fighter Fatality

Today the Panther Fire takes the life of Daniel Packer, Chief of East Pierce County Fire and Rescue in Lake Tapps, Washington. Packer, while scouting fireline locations as a Division Supervisor, deploys his fire shelter when fire activity increases and succumbs to fatal injuries from burns and smoke inhalation.

The Panther Fire doubles in size as it continues to spread. It moves into a snag patch from a fire originating during the 1987 lightning siege. Standing dead trees greatly increase the transport of embers raising the potential for spot fires.

The Soda Complex is contained at 8,652 acres.

Another two hundred member task force of the California National Guard and their instructors arrive on the Breakneck Fire in the Butte Complex for two days of additional training after having completed wildland firefighting classroom training at the Wildland Fire Training Center in McClellan, CA.

Sunday–Monday, July 27–August 4

Progress in the Fire Fight

As containment increases on remaining siege fires, requests for additional resources are diminishing. This prompts the reduction of the California Preparedness Level to 4, shifting CAL MAC to an information-only role. CAL MAC directs NORCAL and SOCAL MACs to collaborate on priority setting and forward the information directly NMAC.

The Basin Fire on the Los Padres National Forest is contained on July 27th at 162,818 acres. Resources are beginning to be released and redeployed to other fires.

The Telegraph Fire (a non-siege fire) located near Yosemite National Park in Mariposa County, becomes the number one priority fire. It grows to more than 26,000 acres and destroyed thirty seven structures.

Need Image

JOINT INFORMATION CENTERS

July 14: Several kinds of Joint Information Centers (JICs) are established to coordinate public information during the 2008 June Fire Siege.

The Susanville JIC is established to coordinate fire information for BLM's Eagle Lake Field Office, the Lassen National Forest (LNF), CAL FIRE's Lassen-Modoc Unit, and Lassen Volcanic National Park.

Butte County's Emergency Operations Center activates a JIC in Oroville starting July 12th to coordinate information on fires, road closures, evacuations, and property damage in Butte County. Participants include the Butte County Sheriff's Office, the Butte

Unit of CAL FIRE, Lassen National Forest, Plumas National Forest, the Town of Paradise, and three Incident Management Teams. This JIC organizes fire information by the major roads affected (e.g. Highway 70 fires, Highway 32 fires, etc.), facilitating the communication of current information to evacuated residents.

Mendocino County activates an information center as part of its Emergency Operations Center. The center is staffed 24 hours per day with employees from all

county departments, as well as volunteers. The center fields thousands of phone calls from residents throughout the county.

CAL FIRE and the US Forest Service activate a JIC in Redding at the Northern California Geographic Area Coordination Center to provide general information on all of the fires in Northern California for the news media.

Area Command Authority teams also provide consolidated information when they oversee

The Panther Fire continues to double in size daily.

Hyampom Road is closed by a rock slide for a few days hampering fire suppression force access and logistical support to the Miners Fire (Lime Complex). The fire spots across Little Creek and burns up to the indirect containment line above the community of Hayfork.

On July 28, the Canyon Complex (PNF) experiences a 30-acre slopover in a streambed on the Little Fire. This complex of six fires has now burned 37,753 acres and is 90% contained. The last 10% will be difficult to achieve, with the active fire lodged in steep, rugged terrain that is nearly inaccessible.

The Gap Fire is contained at 9,443 acres and the Hell’s Half Complex is contained at 15,146 acres.

On July 29, the Rich Fire (non-siege fire) is reported around 3 p.m. along Highway 70 on Plumas National Forest. It is 80 acres upon arrival of the first units and burning with a rapid rate of spread. Evacuations are ordered immediately for many residents along Rush Creek Road. Highway 70 and UPPR rail line are closed again. The extreme fire behavior continues through the night, with the fire reaching more than 2,400 acres by morning.



Await caption

The fires in the Yolla Bolly Complex (MNF) continues to burn actively in the remote wilderness area. Due to the rugged terrain and long travel times, most crews are spiked out in remote camps, making logistics and communications difficult. Progress is slow.

The Butte Complex is fully contained at 64,955 acres.

On July 30, 2008, more than 200 California National Guard are deployed to the Telegraph Fire. Task Force Bucket is the fourth wave in support of “Operation Lightning Strike”, the military term used for the siege fires.



HOOVER CABIN

July 17: The Hoover Cabin at Wooley Camp was built by a local Karuk Indian back in the early 1900’s. The camp consisted of a ramshackle log house and

some outbuildings situated in a large meadow at the confluence of Wooley Creek and Haypress Creek in what is now the Marble Mountain Wilderness. It was highly valued by the local Indians for fishing and hunting. In 1925, the 80-acre camp known as Wooley Creek Ranch was purchased by a small group of fisherman. Herbert Hoover (US President 1929–1933) became a member of the newly formed Wooley Creek Association in 1926. Hoover was an avid

fisherman and visited the cabin often over the years to fish for steelhead on Wooley Creek and nearby Salmon River. Local residents would jokingly refer to the camp as the Western White House. It is believed that Hoover’s attraction to the area was partly responsible for protecting the Marble Mountains as a Primitive area in 1931.

The Ukonom Complex started as 6 separate fires on June 20th. Within four days, the active fire is burning in steep terrain,

threatening critical natural and cultural resources, including the Hoover Cabin and other historical structures at Wooley Camp. Due to limited access, and heavy smoke, the fires remain unstaffed. By July 6th, the smoke clears a bit and some helitack crews are able to secure the Hoover Cabin and other structures by constructing fire lines, and installing sprinklers, and pumps. The team monitors the area for several days as the Jake Fire backs toward the

The American River Complex Contained at 20,541 acres

From July 31st through August 4th, the uncontained siege fires continue to burn actively. Favorable weather conditions allow significant progress by resources now available from contained fires. Several complexes are more than 85% contained.

The fires with less than 70% containment are located in rugged, remote areas including the Panther Fire, which is 8% contained at 9,806 acres. Resources remain assigned as these fires are expected to burn until sufficient rainfall occurs in the Fall.

Status of uncontained siege fires (as of 8/4/08)

Siege Complex	Acres	Contained
Bear-Wallow	12,567	19%
Blue 2	6,955	62%
Canyon	37,357	93%
Iron/Alps	84,788	87%
Lime	63,192	95%
Siskiyou	57,890	60%
Ukonom	42,785	66%
Yolla-Bolly	78,548	60%

Need Image

THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION (NIMO)

NIMO is group of full-time, professional federal employees, whose primary focus is the management of large, long-duration wildland fires and all-hazard incidents. Organized into Type 1 Incident Management Teams they are pre-positioned across the country.

Over the past several years, federal Incident Management Teams are experiencing an increased workload. Under the Stafford Act, the Department of

Homeland Security can task federal resources to provide assistance to states and local jurisdictions when an incident, such as a fire siege, hurricane or earthquake, warrants a Presidential declaration. The Forest Service is tasked with the primary responsibility for managing and coordinating fire fighting activities, including providing personnel and equipment in support of state, tribal, and local agencies involved in rural and urban firefighting operations.

The goal is have seven NIMO teams available year-round, to quickly respond and adapt to emerging events and manage response to complex incidents. Teams are stationed across the U.S. near major jetports, and connected with Geographic Area Coordination Centers. Currently the National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group manages

four NIMO teams located in: Atlanta, Boise, Phoenix, and Portland. NIMO teams are not intended to replace current national IMTs but rather to expand the capacity and capability of wildland fire agencies and to free up critical resources.

Each team consists of seven members serving as Command & General Staff including:

- Incident Commander
- Public Information Officer
- Safety Officer
- Plans Section Chief
- Operations Section Chief
- Finance Section Chief
- Logistics Section Chief.

When not on assignment, NIMO teams have other non-emergency roles and responsibilities in support of the National Incident Management Organization – Feasibility and Implementation Plan. These duties are consistent with the two imperative actions:

planning and executing a larger and more aggressive vegetation management program, and implementing nine key recommendations as described in the National Interagency Complex Incident Management Organization Study. Including:

- Assisting in the planning and execution of landscape-scale prescribed fire projects
- Streamlining wildland fire training and qualifications by developing and implementing a formalized program
- Establishing partnerships and agreements among state and local traditional and non-traditional partners to fill ICS positions
- Developing, implementing, and refining a new complex incident management model.

The Rich Fire, at 6,517 acres and 50% containment, continues to threaten communities and evacuations are in effect.

Today the Craig Fire, starts twelve miles east of Oroville in Butte County, burns more than 1,000 acres, and destroyed one residence the first day. A heavily augmented suppression force has achieved 30% containment by morning.

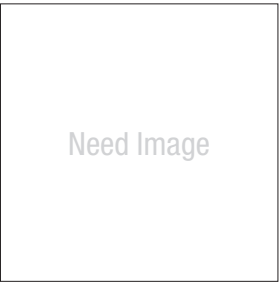
Tuesday, August 5
Final Tragedy of the Siege

In anticipation of predicted thunderstorms, many fire fighters are pulled off the line for safety. Crews that are spiked out in the rugged Trinity Alps Wilderness are being shuttled off the line by helicopters.

At approximately 7:45 p.m., a contract helicopter, ferrying firefighters from a helispot on the Buckhorn Fire in the Iron/Alps Complex crashed and caught fire, killing nine occupants. The nose of the helicopter

struck a tree and the blades hit nearby branches when the chopper lost power during takeoff. Aboard the helicopter are the pilot, copilot, FS pilot-inspector, and nine contract firefighters from Grayback Forestry of Medford, OR. The surviving copilot and three firefighters are hospitalized with moderate to severe injuries. The National Transportation Safety Board is investigating the accident.

The multiple tragedies during siege represent a devastating blow to the fire fighting community. However wildfires continue to burn. August 5th - 6th brings an additional 1,200 lightning strikes to Northern California, the firefighters attack the new and ongoing fires with even greater resolve.



CONDOR CHICK
SURVIVES
LIGHTNING FIRES

July 21: The Basin Complex on the Los Padres National Forest in Monterey County burned

163,000 acres, including much of the habitat of the endangered California condor. This is the home of the 43 birds in the central coast flock, located around Big Sur and Pinnacles National Monument. The fires damaged or destroyed many of the facilities including two condor field pens where condors are held, conditioned, and prepared for release. Much of the equipment used by the Ventana Wildlife Society to reintroduce captive-bred condors into the

wild and to monitor the activities was damaged or destroyed.

While two of the condors' radio transmitters have been silent since the fires and those birds are presumed dead, at least three condor chicks in nests in the fire area did survive. One, dubbed a "miracle" chick, was born in the wild in a nest in a cavity of a redwood tree about two hundred feet tall. The tree showed evidence that the flames had shot up the tree more than 100 feet, and several trees nearby were

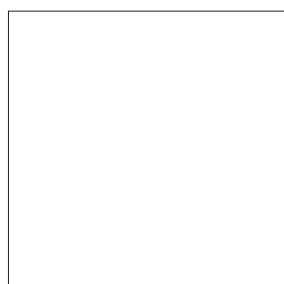
severely burned. On September 3, 2008, biologist Joe Burnett was able to climb the tree and confirm that the approximately 5-month old chick had survived the fire without injuries.



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RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION

As fires come under containment, repair and rehabilitation efforts get underway. State Emergency Assessment Teams (SEATs) coordinated by the OES are tasked "...to facilitate the mitigation of the effects of the fires and the environmental restoration of the affected areas." Each team is comprised of combinations of geologists, hydrologists, soil scientists, archaeologists, foresters, GIS technicians, wildlife and fisheries biologists, and civil engineers. Teams develop plans and implement actions for rapid post-fire watershed assessment and recovery operations to:

- Identify on-site and downstream threats to public health and safety from landslides, mudslides, debris torrents, flooding, damaged infrastructure (e.g. roads and bridges), and other public safety hazards resulting from the fires.

- Identify impacts and threats to: soil productivity from erosion, impaired water quality, wildlife/fisheries habitat, native plant species, and prehistoric and cultural resources.

- Develop a report and recommendations for local jurisdictions to be used to guide implementation of timely mitigation of potential impacts.

SEAT specialists conduct rapid surveys on burned areas to determine if emergency rehabilitation treatment is needed to minimize the risk of threats to life and property. These surveys are used with other relevant, reliable sources of information to assess if emergency rehabilitation treatment was needed. Each

report contains data and maps to help local officials quickly identify threatened areas.

The recommendations in each SEAT report fall into one of two broad categories: treatments considered temporary (short-term) measures designed as inexpensive "quick fixes"; and long-term treatments designed to facilitate the recovery of entire watersheds while minimizing the exposure of the values at risk to the threats identified.

Commonly identified threats identified include: increased risk of in-channel flooding; debris torrents; mudslides; landslides; and rock falls. Manmade structures such as pedestrian bridges, homes, commercial buildings, highway bridges, roads and public gathering places are identified as at risk in several locations. Many of these structures are located within the confluence of natural drainages, near areas of natural instability that are further weakened by the loss of vegetation, or predisposed to mass movement

from hydrophobic soils created by the fires.

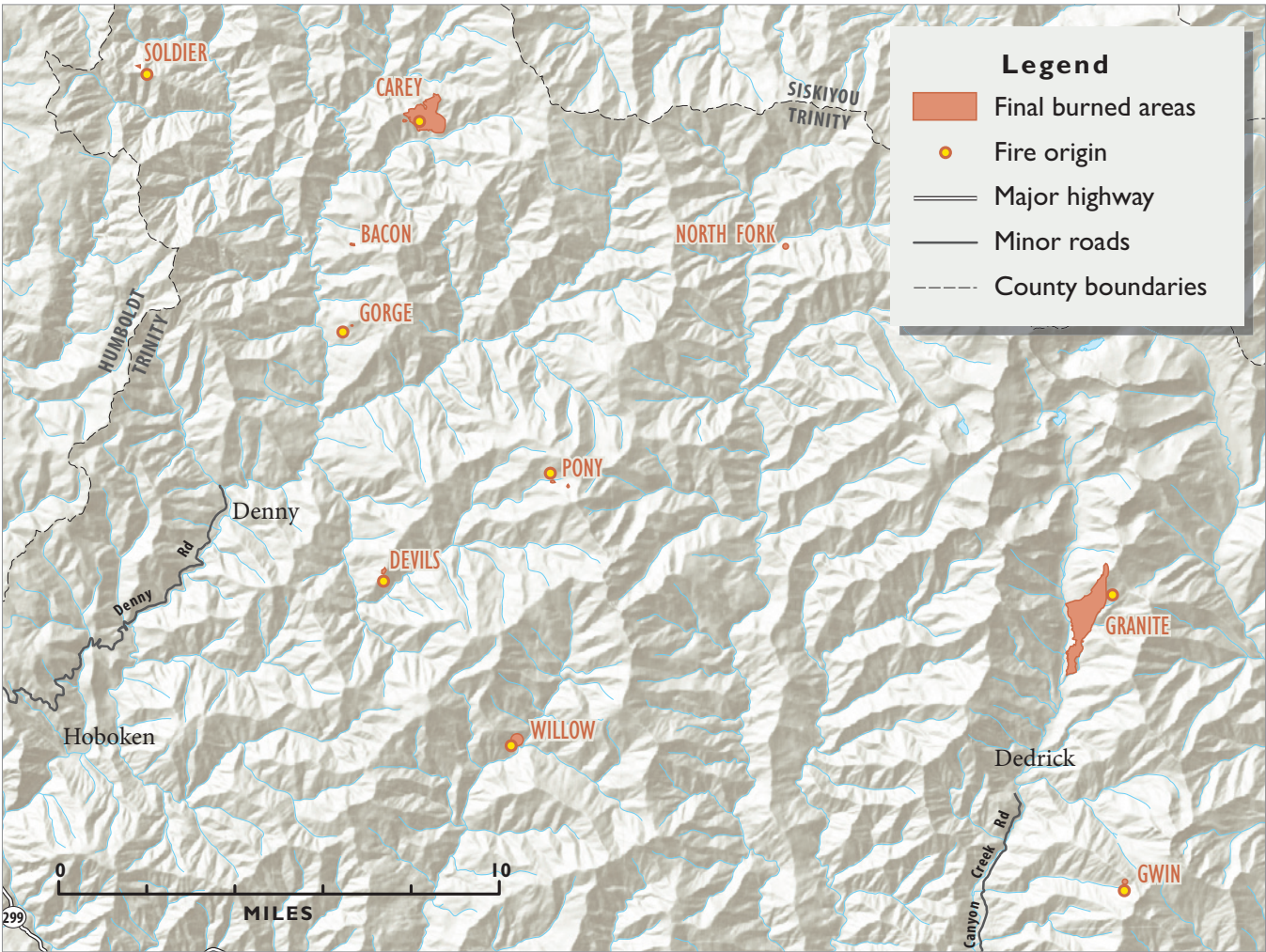
On federal lands, Burned Area Environmental Rehabilitation (BAER) teams undertake similar tasks to determine if significant emergency threats to human health and safety, or natural resources exist. As these areas are identified, plans are implemented to alleviate emergency conditions stabilizing soil; controlling water, sediment, and debris movement; preventing impairment of ecosystems; and mitigating threats to life, health, property, and downstream infrastructure and natural resource values at risk. The teams are also tasked to monitor the effectiveness of the implementation measures.

Thus, even before the fires were out, work had begun in earnest to repair the damages caused by the fire suppression operations, to mitigate the hazards and risks associated with the fire/flood cycle, and to begin restoration of environmental quality. Additional work was quickly



Appendix 1:
Complex Summaries
(Add brief description/call out)

Alps Complex

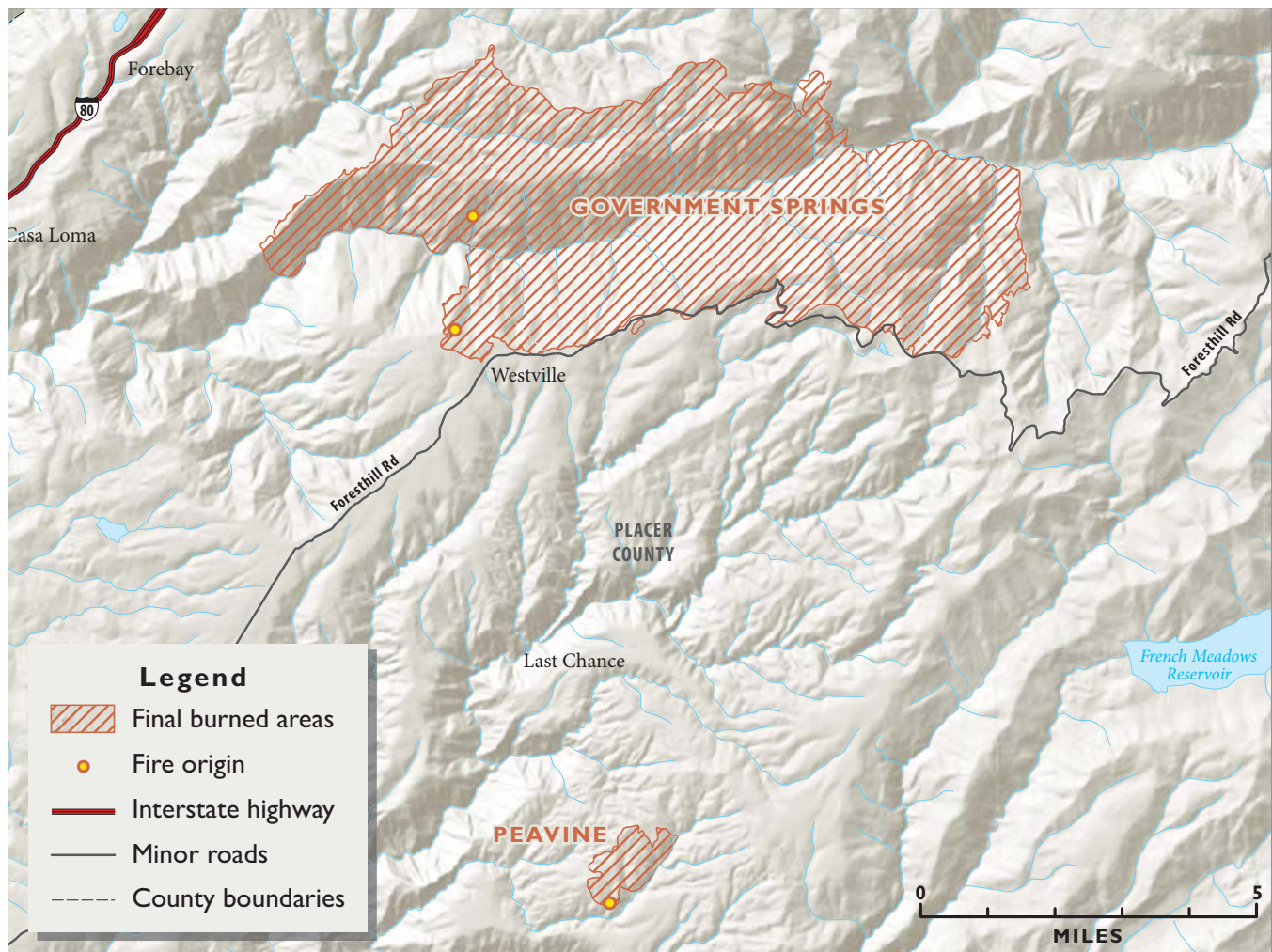


STATISTICS			
Complex Fire #CA-SHF-001079		Complex on 7/4; on 9/4 98% containment and 28,909 acres per Iron/Alps 209	
Number of Fires: 15		• Clem: burned into Buckhorn	
Major fires: (name, date and acres)		Fire on 7/3, to be reported as	
• Buckhorn: transferred to Iron		Buckhorn Fire	
		• Denny: management transferred to Iron complex on 6/29	
		• Carey 9/1 3,689	
		• Granite 7/20 542	
		• Willow 6/26 38	
		• Pony 6/26 3	
		• Devils 6/26 6	
		County: Trinity	
		Affected Communities: Brooks	

The fires in the Alps Complex burn within or near the Trinity Alps Wilderness in the Shasta Trinity National Forest. On July 3, the Buckhorn and Clem Fires burn together and are reported as the Buckhorn Fire. On July 4, the Buckhorn Fire transfers into the Iron Complex and by July 10, the entire Alps Complex is being managed by the Iron Complex. The last report for the Alps Complex was filed on July 11, and from this point forward all of the Alps Complex Fires

becomes part of the Iron Complex. The Carey Fire eventually becomes a primary concern of the Hoopa Valley Tribe which has tribal interests on USFS lands west of the Carey Fire. Although no injuries or fatalities are reported for the Alps Complex, the Buckhorn Fire, which transfers to the Iron Complex on July 4, is the site of the tragic helicopter crash on August 5 resulting in 9 fatalities and 4 hospitalizations.

American River Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 10

Major fires:

- Government Springs
- Westville: Combined with
- Government Springs Fire: 7/9/2008 for 19,990 acres
- Peavine: 7/5/2008 for 551 acres

County: Placer

Affected Communities:

Foresthill, Baker Ranch, Michigan Bluff, Blue Canyon, and Robinson Flat

Agencies in Command: USFS

Teams assigned: USFS, Rocky Mtn T-1 team (Summerfelt); T-1 IMT (Muir), T-3 (Suarez)

Start Report Date:

6/21/08 at 2:00 PM

Containment Date: 7/30/2008

Total Acres: 20,541 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs: \$23,950,980

Firefighters Assigned at Peak: 992 on 7/12

Structures Destroyed:

2 residential

Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 0

Fuels: Timber, and brush

Cause: Lightning

The American River Complex starts during the June 21 lightning storm as a series of 9 fires within the American River drainage in Placer County. Within 24 hours, 5 fires are contained and the other four fires threaten the communities of Foresthill, Baker Ranch and Michigan Bluff. With moderate to rapid fire spread, the Peavine Fire is expected to double in size and the Government Springs Fire to triple. The Westville Fire was expected to merge with the Government Springs Fire. Smoke created health issues affecting the community of Foresthill.

On June 24, the American River Complex has grown to 1300 acres and is 5% contained. Firefighters discover and contain two new fires: Hardclimb Fire and Red Fire. After an extensive search, the eight hikers/miners reported missing in the North Fork area are located and evacuated to safe areas. The Peavine fire, at 200 acres, is burning in the Peavine Creek drainage and threatening the Placer Grove of Giant Sequoias. The Government Fire, at 1000 acres, is well established in an accessible area of the North Fork of the American River drainage burning the municipal watershed and threatening recreation cabins and archaeological/historical sites. The Westville fire, at 50-75 acres and influenced by the Government fire, has the potential to be several thousand acres.

By June 26 with the hundreds of ongoing fires in Northern California, competition for resources delays the team's ability to achieve suppression objectives on the American River Complex. All assigned resources are committed to the number one priority fire, the Peavine Fire, with expected containment in 5 days. Meanwhile the Government Springs and Westville Fires remain mostly unstaffed and continue to grow unimpeded. With a Red Flag warning for dry lightning, firefighters anticipate erratic and unpredictable fire spread due to

downdrafts as well as new starts. One summer cabin has been destroyed by the Government Springs Fire, with more cabins threatened.

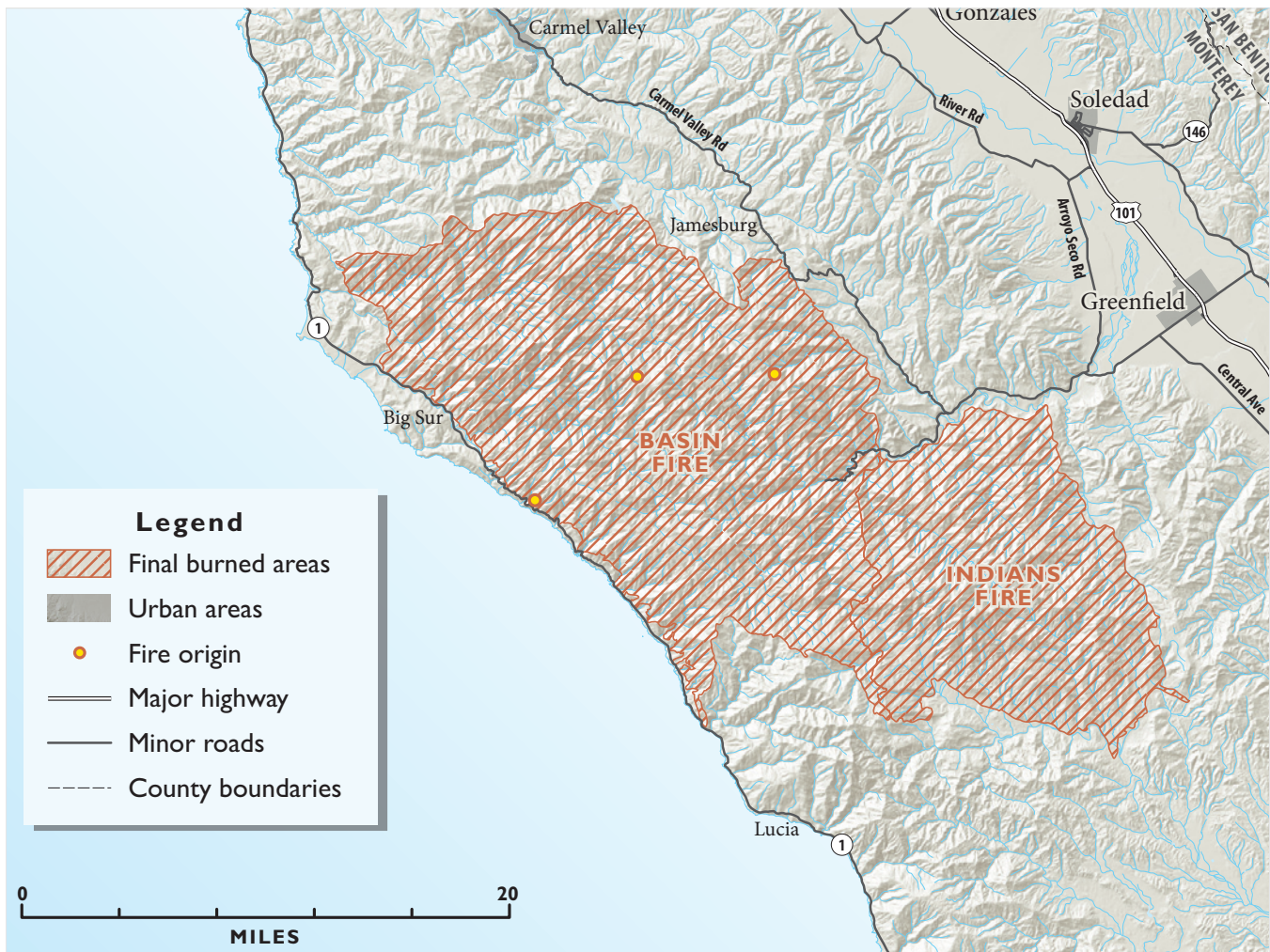
By June 29, the American River complex is at 3,697 acres and 10% containment. Good progress is made on the Peavine fire with a scratch line now complete. The focus of fire fighting efforts turns to the Government Springs Fire which becomes "a race between suppression resources and the fire." If resources are not able to hold the fire in the Willmont Saddle and Sawtooth Ridge areas, there is a growing concern that the fire could grow substantially and threaten the community of Blue Canyon, the Union Pacific Railroad, the Interstate 80 corridor, and Tunnel Mills Spike Camp. (The economic impact of shutting down the rail line is estimated at about \$1,000,000 per hour.)

On July 3 Union Pacific Railroad brought in a fire train to protect the tracks. July 6, fire activity increases as the inversion lifts, forcing the reallocation of resources to focus on areas with highest values at risk. A second residence is destroyed.

The Westville Fire develops a major convection column on July 9 and its east flank and crosses the American River to merge with the Government Fire. Smoke from the fires affects communities along the I-80 corridor from Truckee to Reno, NV. Numerous roads, trails, campgrounds, and other recreational facilities remain closed. The American River Complex has burned 10,826 acres and is 25% contained.

By July 11 the American River Complex has grown to more than 18,000 acres and is only 20% contained. However, as an inversion settles in over the area and moderates fire activity, firefighters make good progress with line construction, mop-up, cold-trailing, and hot-spotting. Smoke trapped beneath the inversion

Indians Fire / Basin Complex



INDIAN FIRES

Incident Number: CA-LPF-1491

Number of Fires: 1

County: Monterey

Affected Communities: Santa Lucia Summer Tract, Rancho Siesta, Coleman Canyon, and Pine Canyon

Agencies in Command: Unified command with USFS, Cal Fire, and Fort Hunter Liggett

Teams assigned: Unified command with USFS IMT-2 (Molumby, IC), Cal Fire

(Hutchinson, IC), and Fort Hunter Liggett (Crum, IC).

Start Report Date:

06/2008 at 12:36 PM

Containment Date: 7/10/2008

Total Acres: 81,378 acres

Estimated Direct Fire Suppression Costs: \$42,500,000

Structures Destroyed: 15

Structures Damaged: 1

Fatalities: 0

Fuels: Grass/Chaparral/Timber

Cause: Human

BASIN COMPLEX

Incident Number: CA-LPF-1649

Number of Fires: 3

Major fires: Basin and Gallery Fires

County: Monterey

Affected Communities: Big Sur, Carmel, Lucia, Carmel Valley, Rodeo Flats, Partington Ridge Tanbark, Pine Valley and Chews Ridge.

Agencies in Command: Unified command with USFS, CalFire, Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade and Monterey County Sheriffs Office.

Start Report Date: 6/21/08

Containment Date: 7/27/08

Total Acres: 162,818 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs: \$77,496,454 (estimated)

Firefighters Assigned at Peak:

Structures Destroyed:

26 residences, 32 outbuildings

Structures Damaged:

5 residences, 4 outbuildings

Fatalities: 0

Fuels: Chaparral

Cause: Lightning

The Indians Fire starts on Sunday June 8 in the Ventana Wilderness, northwest of Fort Hunter Liggett. The fire is very active with extreme fire behavior and spotting. By June 11, it has burned approximately 10,800 acres with 13 percent containment. One residence has been destroyed and one residence damaged. Twenty residences remain threatened, forcing the evacuations of Forest Service summer cabins in the Santa Lucia Tract. A portion of Los Padres National Forest in Monterey County is closed.

As the fire actively spreads primarily to north and east, another residence and 13 outbuildings destroyed are destroyed. More than 1300 structures are threatened. Due to extended travel times, a spike camp, for 200 to 300 personnel, is established at Greenfield High School.

When the lightning event of June 20th strikes Monterey County, the Indians Fire has been burning for over two weeks and is at 52,200 acres with 55 Percent containment. The incident is assisting the Monterey Ranger District with initial attack on two lightning fires, the Gallery Fire (35 acres) and the Bear Basin Fire (20 acres), that would eventually become the Basin Complex. A voluntary evacuation is in place for upper Pine Canyon while an evacuation advisory is in place for lower Pine Canyon and Thompson Canyon.

By June 29, the Indians incident continues firing operations in Arroyo Seco drainage as weather conditions allow and to provide tactical and logistical support to the Basin Complex. With only 12 miles of line to build, the Indians Fire is at 60,845 acres and 89% contained.

Full containment is reported on July 10, although approximately 10,000 acres of the Indians Fire total of 81,378 acres are interior islands that have not yet burned.

The Basin Complex is the combination of three fires started from June lightning event – the Basin, Gallery, and the Logwood, which is a single tree lightning strike. Within 24 hours the fires has burned 2000 acres posing an immediate threat to homes in Partington Ridge. It is anticipated to threaten the community of Big Sur within the next 24 hrs. Mandatory evacuations are issued from the Ventana Inn, in Big Sur south to Julia Pfeiffer Day Use Area. Five hundred residences threatened.

By June 23 the Logwood fire has been consumed by the Gallery fire. The Complex now has two fires. The Gallery fire is 6350 acres with 10% containment. The Basin fire is 2150 acres with 0% containment. Three residences and 2 outbuildings are reported destroyed. Another eleven structures are reported destroyed by the following morning.

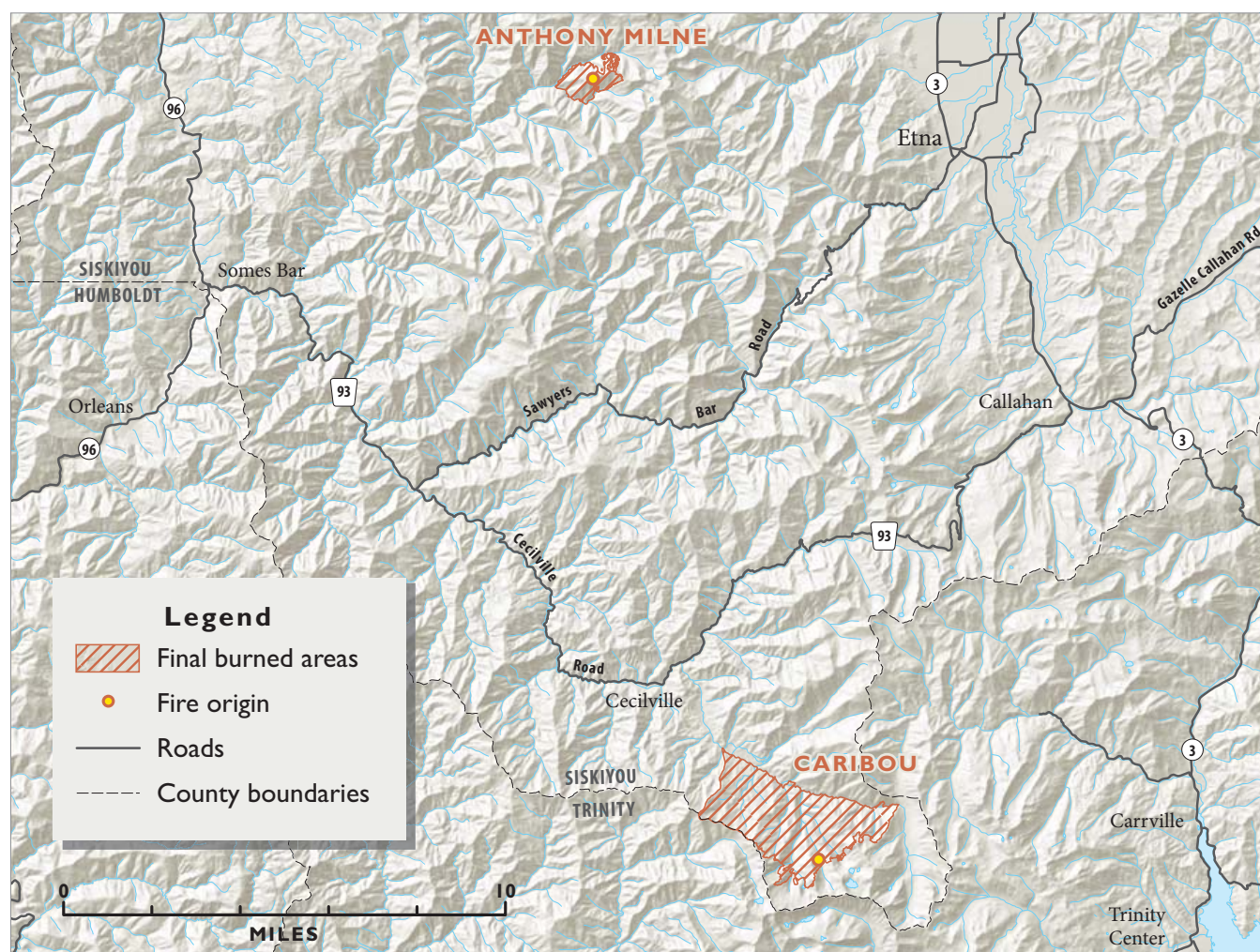
On June 25, Governor Schwarzenegger visits the incident this morning. With heavy fuel loads due to sudden oak death, the Basin Complex is expected to be long term.

By June 26, the Basin and Gallery fires have merged. Poor visibility caused by smoke and low clouds limited aircraft operations today. Evacuations remain in place in the Partington Ridge area.

The Basin Complex burns in extremely steep and rugged terrain with continuous heavy fuel loading. Active fire behavior is limiting opportunities for containment actions. Because of the size and complexity of the incident, it is divided into two zones (West Zone and East Zone) with two incident commanders in unified command.

By July 2 the Basin Complex is 61,275 acres and 3 percent contained and over 2000 structures are threatened. The West Zone reports that the fire has

Bear Wallow Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 2 original; 3 at peak when South Ukonom added on 8/15

Major fires

- Caribou 9/23
- Anthony Milne 9/23 1,779
- South Ukonom 9/23 (85%)

County: Siskiyou

Affected Communities:

Summerville, Caribou Ck, Glacier

View Ranch, Anthony Milne

Camp, and Wooley Creek

Agencies in Command: USFS

Teams assigned: Central Sierra T-2, (Johnson); Northern CA T-2, (Swartzlander); T-2 IMT, (Beckman); and NIMO team, (Gage)

Start Report Date:

6/21/2008 at 4:00 PM

Containment Date: 9/26/2008

Total Acres: Bear Wallow –

50,820 acres (includes South Ukonom)

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:

\$17,766,414 (includes Anthony Milne, Caribou, South Ukonom and North Ukonom fires)

Firefighters Assigned at Peak:

668 on 8/7 with only the two fires; 680 on 9/14 after going to the Theater of Operations.

Structures Destroyed: 0

Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 0 for the Bear Wallow Complex; 2 reported under the Klamath Theater with 1 on the Panther (reported on the 9/11 2009) and 1 on the Siskiyou Blue (reported on the 9/14 2009).

Fuels: Mixed Timber, brush, slash, and litter

Cause: Lightning

The Bear Wallow Complex starts on June 21 by dry lightning. The complex includes the Caribou Fire which was about six miles southeast of Cecilville and the Anthony Milne Fire in the Marble Mountain Wilderness. With fires burning at low intensity and in remote areas, fire behavior analysts and fire monitoring crews are brought in to assess the situation and help determine minimum impact suppression tactics (MIST). MIST options include the use of natural fire barriers such as rocky outcrops or sparsely vegetated landscapes for containment areas. These strategies can minimize firefighter exposure to the risks associated with steep, inaccessible terrain and may provide a suppression cost savings. The Anthony Milne and Caribou Fires are managed using a confine and contain strategy. Fires from the Ukonom complex continue to burn toward the Milne fire

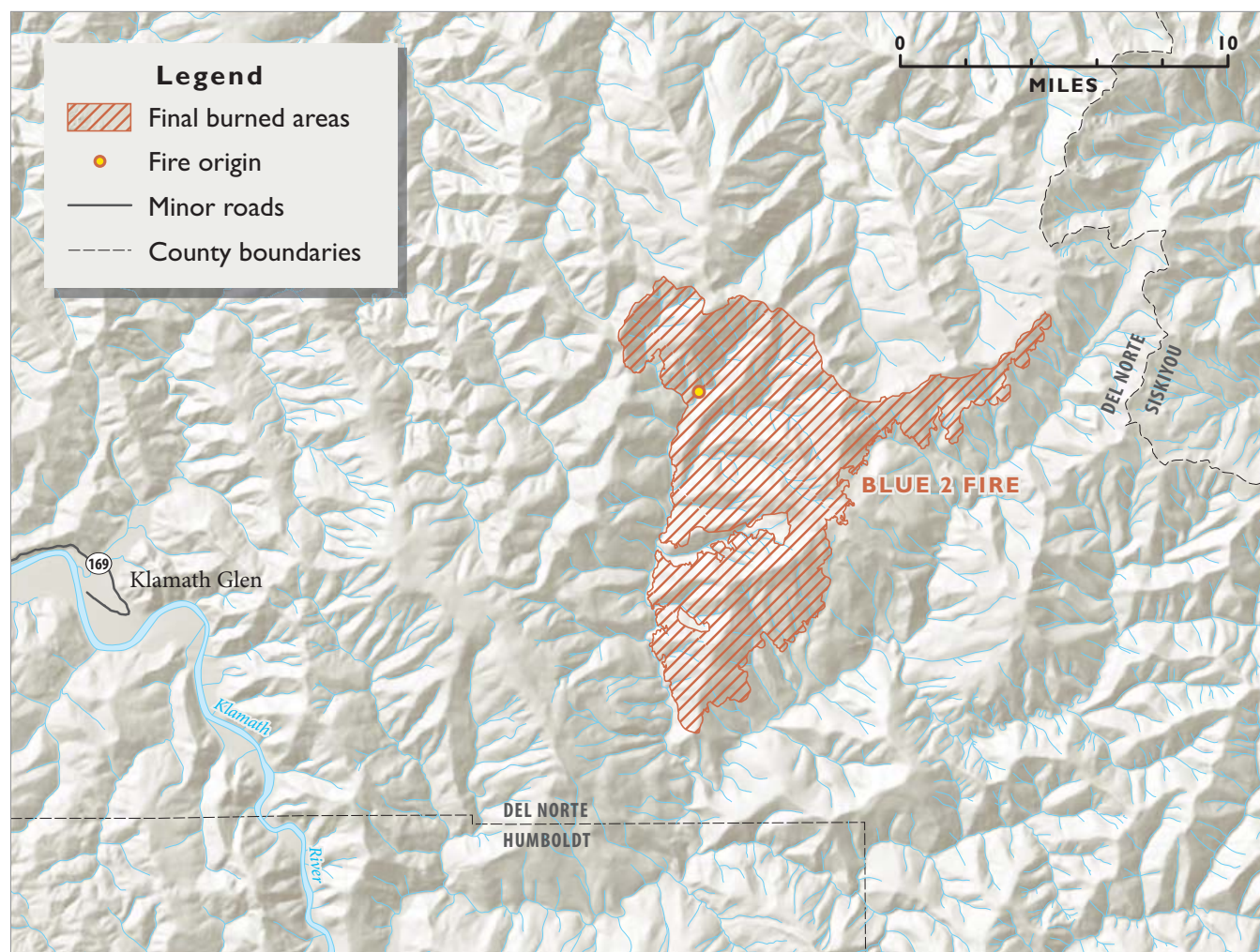
On July 23rd, the Caribou fire makes a significant run spreading to the east and west, burning approximately 1200 acres. Residents along the South Fork of the Salmon River and the community of Summerville are under a voluntary evacuation with structures

threatened. Fire crews focus on building direct line to secure the northern edge of the fire and building indirect dozer lines along the border of the Trinity Alps Wilderness. The Trinity Alps Wilderness and approximately 16 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail are closed due to fire activity. Meanwhile the Anthony Milne fire continues to burn with low intensity within its perimeter and is monitored by aircraft.

By August 8, the Bear Wallow Complex is 13,994 acres and 51% contained. On August 20, a Fire Use Incident Management Team resumes command of Anthony Milne Fire (1779 acres), the Caribou Fire (12,973 acres), and the southern portion of the Ukonom Fire (29,730 acres) which would be managed collectively as the Bear Wallow Complex.

By September 11, the Bear Wallow Complex at 48,551 acres was moved into the Klamath Theatre.

Blue 2 Fire



STATISTICS

Complex Fire # CA-SRF-001224

Number of Fires: 1

County: Del Norte

Affected Communities:

Klamath, Klamath Glen

Agencies in Command:

US Forest Service

Cooperating Agencies: Karuk,

Yurok, Hoopa and Tolowa

Tribes; CalFireStart Report Date:

6/20/08 at 2000 hrs. Originally

called Blue Fire (CA-

SRF-001057) then

went to Ukonom Complex

(CA-SRF-001126) and then to

Blue 2 Fire. Blue 2 Fire merged

into Siskiyou Complex

(CA-KNF-002975)

Containment Date:

Unknown—on 9/26 under final

Klamath Theater 209 fire was

95% contained

Total Acres: 9,728 ac on Blue 2

final 209 on 8/13; all other

209's give combination of

Siskiyou & Blue 2 fire.

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:

\$11,813,267 on Final Blue 2

209 on 8/13

Firefighters Assigned at Peak:

397 on 7/29

Structures Destroyed: 0

Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 0

Fuels: Timber, brush, old fire

scars and hardwood litter

Cause: lightning

Lightning ignites the Blue 2 Fire, originally called the Blue Fire (CA-SRF-001057), on June 20 near the headwaters of the Crescent City Fork of Blue Creek, east of Klamath. The fire burns heavy timber in very steep and rugged terrain. On June 26, the Blue Fire, at 225 ACRES and 5 percent contained, is incorporated as part of the Ukonom Complex (CA-SRF-001126).

On July 6, the Blue fire is separated from the Ukonom Complex and renamed the Blue 2 as it transitions to a new management team. At 1,090 acres and 8 percent containment, the Blue 2 threatens critical cultural and spiritual sites of the Yurok, Karuk, and Tolowa tribes. Pending major traditional spiritual activities within the fire area pose additional safety concerns.

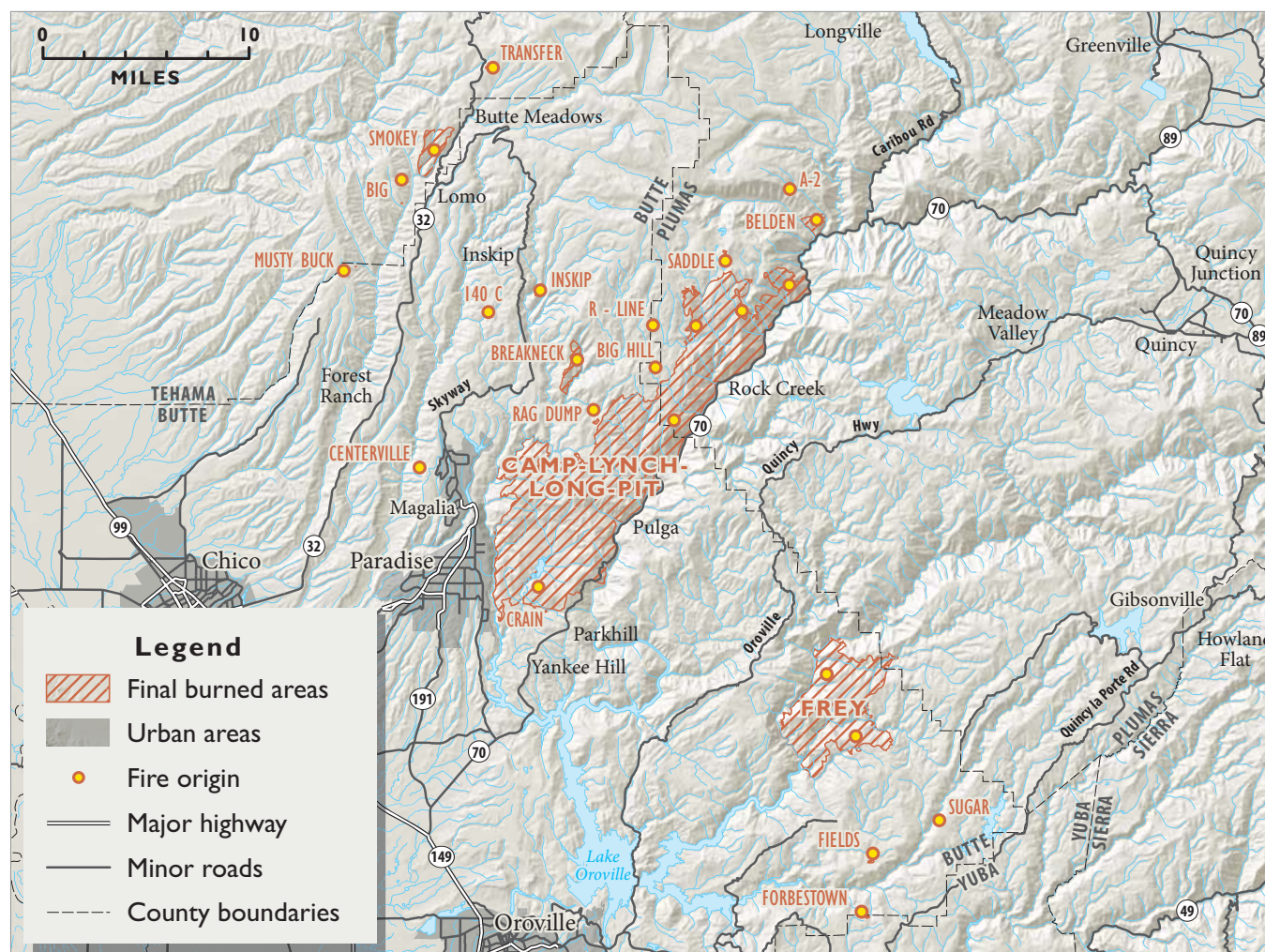
Additional Forest closure orders are implemented on July 11. Firefighting resources are loaned to local ranger district for initial attack and traffic control when new starts cause the temporary closure of US Highway 199 at Hiouchi. The Red Mountain communication site is at risk. Valued at \$25,000,000, the communication equipment is critical to local fire and other emergency operations. Other values at risk

include: numerous heritage resources (National Historic Register eligible), extremely sensitive Native American cultural and spiritual lands, Threatened and Endangered species habitat, anadromous fisheries habitat, old growth timber, the Wild and Scenic River corridor, and forest recreation use.

By July 17, the Blue 2 fire has burned 4,426 acres and is 16 percent contained. Major fire control problems continue to include remote access, extremely steep rugged terrain, falling snags and rollouts. Structure protection for the Red Mountain communication site including fuel reduction, wrapping and sprinkler systems has been completed. Trail and road closures are in effect. Important Native American cultural areas in the fire vicinity continue to be a concern.

By July 29, the Blue 2 Fire is 5,424 acres and 25 percent contained. Half of the fire is burning in the Siskiyou Wilderness and is expected to burn into September. On August 13, the Blue 2 incident is transferred to Siskiyou Complex (CA-KNF-002975) at 9,728 acres and 69% containment.

Butte Lightning Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 41

Major fires: (name, date and acres)

- Rim 7/2
- West 7/6
- Camp
- Smokey
- Breakneck 7/12
- Frey
- Butte 7/21
- Hwy 70

(West includes Flea Valley 3, Empire, Sawmill & Oakway Fires; Camp & Pit fires merged 7/14; contained

7/29; Smokey Fires includes Little Smokey & Smokey; lined 7/7; Frey was managed by IMT #3— Canyon Complex, and then back to Butte)

BTU: (assumed command of and dates)

- A-2 7/15
- Saddle 7/11
- Pit
- Belden

(Belden transferred back to Canyon Complex on 7/16)

Affected Communities: Butte Meadows, Jonesville, Jarbo Gap, Concow, Yankee Hill, Cohasset,

Forest Ranch, Paradise, Magalia, Sterling City, Belden, Coutolenc
County: Butte

Agencies in Command: CAL
FIRE's Butte Unit (BTU): CAL
FIRE ICT # 9 (Lewin & Morris) and ICT #5 (Streblow)

Start Report Date:
6/21/08 at 1400 hrs.

Containment Date: 7/29/08

Total Acres: 59,440

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:
\$94,825,683 per 209

Firefighters Assigned at Peak:

3,290 on 7/12

Structures Destroyed:

117 total (106 residences and 11 outbuildings)

Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 2 (1 civilian in Concow area and 1 off-duty FF assigned to the incident)

Fuels: Timber, logging slash, brush, and grass

Cause: Lightning

The Butte Unit contains most of its 41 lightning fires early in the siege. Many of the fires were located in the rugged Feather River Canyon significantly impacting Highway 70, the Union Pacific Railroad, and the PG&E electric power generation and transmission facilities along the river. The Camp Fire was the primary concern, as it posed the greatest threat to highly populated areas, including the Town of Paradise, and the communities of Concow, Jarbo Gap, Yankee Hill, Magalia, and Paradise Pines.

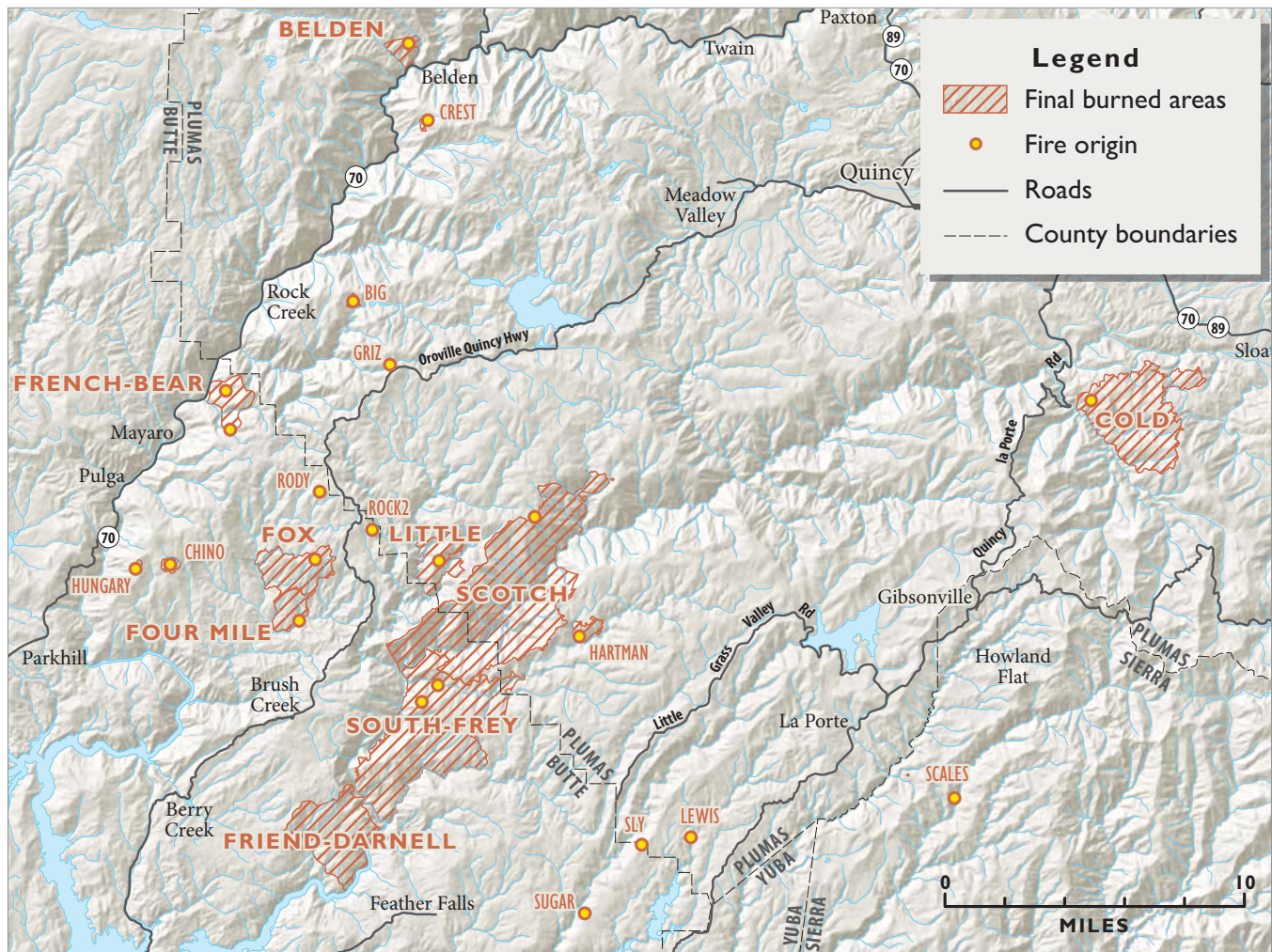
One of the biggest problems is the presence of strong, gusty down-canyon winds that frequently occur at night in the Feather River Canyon. These winds accentuated by a Foehn wind event cause the fire to jump Highway 70, and push the fire into Concow. Approximately 50 residences are destroyed and one civilian life is lost.

Active fires burning on the adjacent Canyon Complex (Plumas National Forest), threaten to merge with the Butte Complex fires and threaten populated areas necessitating the redeployment of fire engines for

structure protection to the Canyon Complex. Fires were swapped between complexes increasing management and control effectiveness using the Feather River Canyon as a dividing feature. Another complication arose when a new fire started between the two complexes, presenting a danger to people in between the three fires.

The Rim, West, and Smokey fires are contained by July 6th while the Saddle and Breakneck fire complexes are contained one week later. Another gusty wind episode July 21 causes the Camp Fire to spot across containment lines and burn into standing dead trees from a previous fire, delaying containment. The Frey Fire and the Camp Fire Complex were not fully contained until nearly the end of July.

Canyon Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 50 with Frey Fire (from Butte complex) on 6/29; 42 after giving some fires to Butte Complex

Major fires: (name and acres)

• Cold Fire	7/15	5,512
• Hartman	7/2	—
• Little	—	1,384
• Crest	6/26	40
• Rock II	6/27	25
• South		

- Belden
 - Scotch Fire
 - Bear
 - Pit
 - Frey Fire
- (Pit to Butte Lightning complex on 7/1; Frey Fire from Butte Complex into Canyon Complex on 7/1)
- County:** Plumas
- Affected Communities:** Feather Falls, Sly, Bald Rock, Cromberg

Garden, Zumwalt Flat, Brush Creek, Berry Ck., Belden, Greenhorn, Sloat, Spring Garden, and Millsap Bar

Agencies in Command: USFS

Teams assigned USFS, IMT#3

T-1 (Pincha-Tulley); PNW3 T-1 (Pendleton)

Start Report Date: 6/21/2008 at 1:30 PM

Containment Date: 11/3/2008

Total Acres: 47,680 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs: \$45,501,474 per 8/17/2008 209

Firefighters Assigned at Peak: 1,538 on 7/13

Structures Destroyed: 3
(1 residential and 2 outbuildings)

Fuels: Timber, logging slash, brush and grass

Cause: Lightning

The Canyon Complex is started by lightning on June 21 in the Feather River Canyon of Plumas County. Initial estimates of almost 50 fires are scattered throughout steep, inaccessible terrain. This complex generates national and congressional attention due to its proximity to a Herger-Feinstein Quincy Library Group Pilot Project Area.

On 6/24/2008 the Plumas National Forest (PNF) issues a Fire Emergency Area Closure for areas affected by the Canyon Complex. The Plumas County Sheriff issues advanced notifications for possible evacuations to residents in the vicinity of the Cold Fire, while a precautionary evacuation of animals is underway for the communities of Spring Garden, Greenhorn and Sloat. A Canyon Complex/Plumas National Forest Multi-incident Coordination Plan is established to facilitate the sharing of resources. Incident management teams establish boundaries between Butte and Canyon Complexes and agree to share resources and coordinate aircraft use.

By June 25 the Complex has burned 5,291 acres and is 5% contained. The priority fires are the Cold Fire (4,079 acres), Hartman Fire (120 acres), Little Fire (50 acres), South Fire (100 acres), and Sky High Fire (100 acres). There are 17 additional uncontained fires at approximately 742 acres. Thirteen fires are contained for 320 acres, and seven fires are not located due to limited access and heavy smoke limiting air reconnaissance. With the steep terrain and widespread incident area, radio communications and logistics are impacted and the complex is divided into North and South Zones.

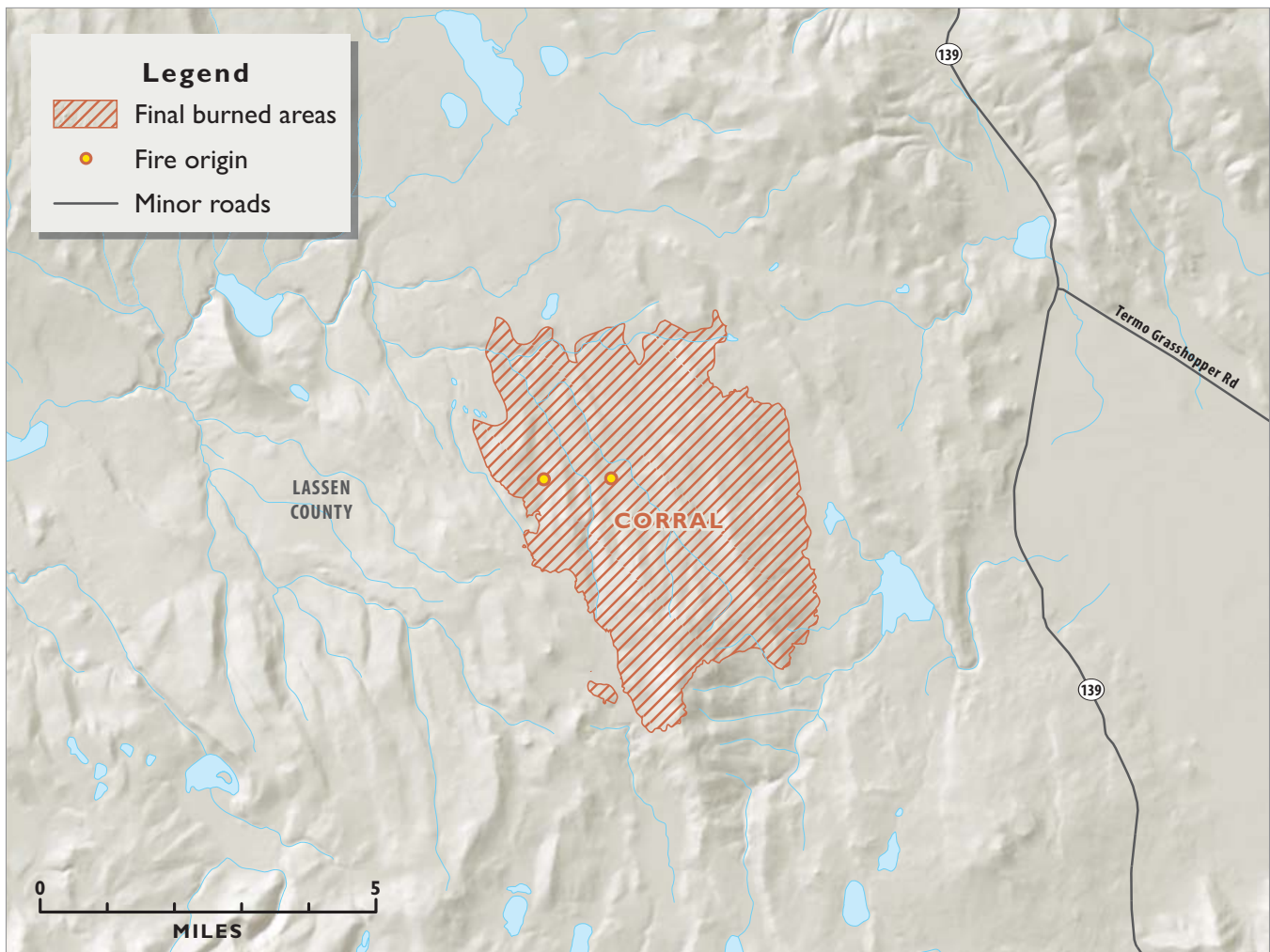
The Canyon Complex has more than doubled to 12,158 acres on June 29 and remains 5% contained. Increased fire activity on the Cold, Pit, and South fires

causes in rapid fire growth while progress is made on the Hartman, Fox and Four Mile Fires. The Quarry/Island is unstaffed because of safety concerns with surrounding fires on the Butte Complex. The Crest Fire remains unstaffed and is patrolled by air. A new human caused fire near Sloat Staging is contained.

July 1, the Canyon Complex transfers the fires on the eastern perimeter (Pit, Quarry, Island and Granite Fires) to the Butte Complex, and assumes responsibility for the Frey Fire. Twenty fires are contained for 1,392 acres of which 3 are staffed and the remaining are air patrolled. Nine fires are uncontained for 10,851 acres of which 8 are staffed. Priority fires are the Cold (5,319 acres), South (1,251 acres), Frey (1,250 acres), Little (736 acres), and Scotch (260 acres). Twelve reported fires are still not located. Fires remain active, particularly at night with strong, gusty down-canyon and down-slopes winds. Firefighters who rappel from helicopters into the Belden Fire are removed due to intensified fire behavior. The fires threaten 83 residences, 13 commercial properties, 2 outbuildings, power stations and the railroad. The Plumas Forest Area Closure remains in effect.

On July 8 a thermal trough settles into the area increasing fire spread, potential for crown fire and long-range spotting. Weather Stations record triple digit temperatures and single digit minimum relative humidity. The Belden Fire is first priority and is jointly staffed between the Canyon Complex and Butte Complex. Precautionary and advisory evacuations for the community of Belden remain in effect. Hwy 70 is closed east of Belden to Rush Creek. The South Fire makes a run to the south and spots across the Middle Fork of the Feather River, consuming over 690 acres. The Frey Fire and Little

Corral Fire



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 1

Major fires: NA

County: Lassen

Affected Communities:

Gooch Valley

Agencies in Command:

CAL FIRE

Teams assigned: CAL FIRE's

Lassen-Modoc-Plumas Unit

(LMU) using a federal T-1 IMT

Start Report Date:

6/23/2008 at 8:00 PM

Containment Date: 7/7/2008

Total Acres: 12,434 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:

\$3,600,000

Firefighters Assigned at Peak: 397

Structures Destroyed: 0

Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 0

Fuels: Timber, brush, and grass

Cause: Lightning

The Corral Fire is reported on June 23rd as one of approximately 50 fires in the LMU June Lightning Complex, but is separated from the Complex and given its own incident number. Approximately 25 miles down a gravel road from Highway 139 and the CAL FIRE Grasshopper Fire Station in Lassen County. The fire spread from a lightning strike in eastside pine by a Southwest wind. By 3 AM the fire is well established in downed heavy fuels. The structure threat was minimal due to the remote location. The fire burned on Lassen National Forest and private commercial timber property.

Within 24 hours the fire grew to 500 acres, while the winds diminished and humidity increased. On June 26th, the winds increased again, humidity fell and spot fire activity increased. By the end of the day the fire was over 2,200 acres with spotting a mile away. The following day, the weather moderated allowing containment lines to hold and mop up started.

Favorable conditions do not last. On June 28th a thunder cell collapses and peak wind gusts of 50 MPH cause rapid rates of spread, frequent spotting and the loss of established control lines. Resources disengage and retreat to safety zones as a precautionary measure. The closest air tanker bases (Chester and Chico) are smoked out increasing flight turn around times. Approximately 50 new lightning fires were quickly contained by resources are reassigned from the Corral Fire. The Dixie Fire is the single new fire from the

thunderstorm. By the morning of June 29th the Corral Fire reaches 10,000 acres burning commercial timber in the Upper Gooch Valley.

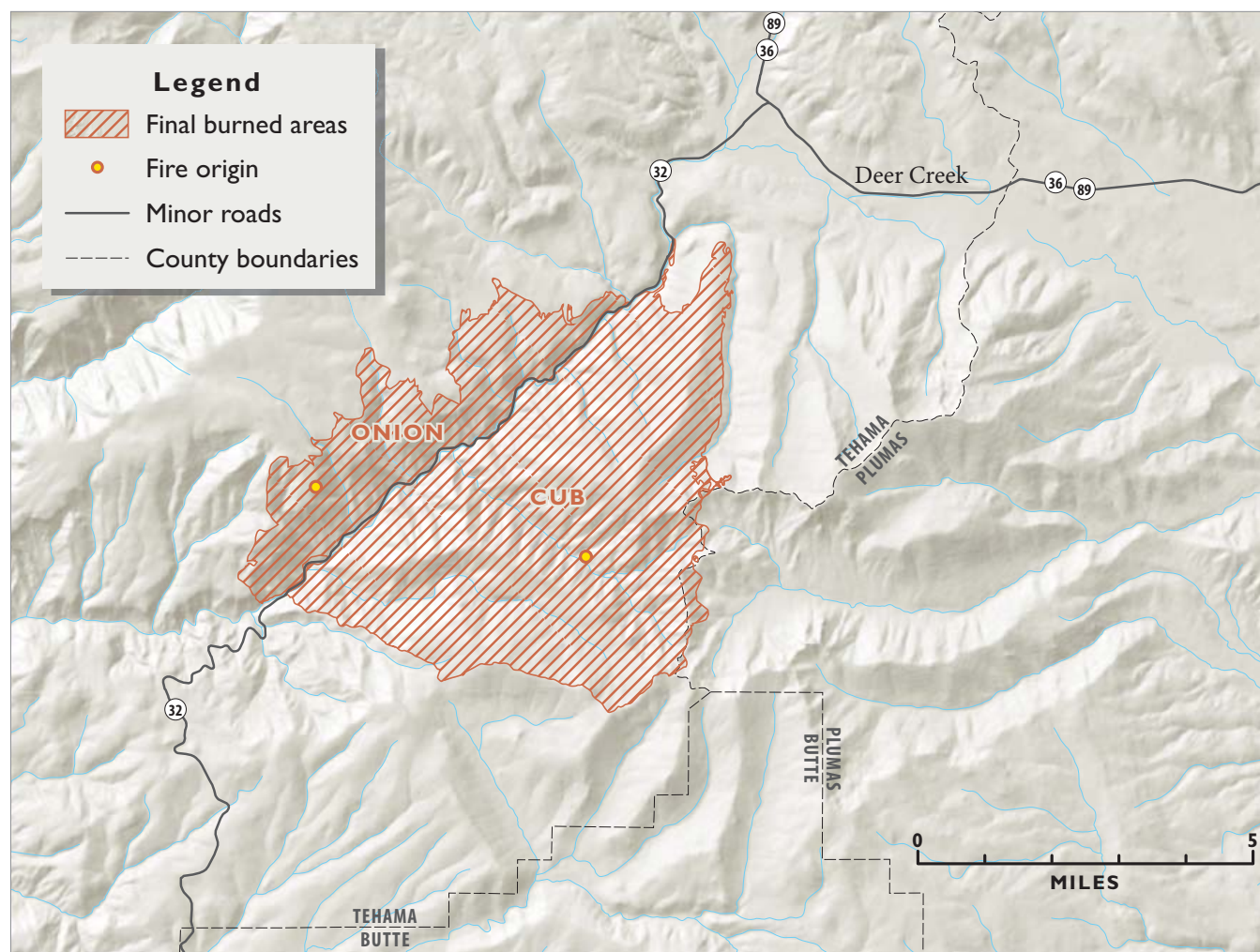
Now at an estimated 15,000 acres on June 30th Afternoon Southwestern winds and extremely low fuel moistures combined continue to drive rapid rates of spread and spotting in the pine timber, shrubs and grasslands until nighttime temperature and humidity recoveries allow for fire line construction.

On July 3rd, The Incident Commander, Dave Larsen predicts containment by July 7th only if needed resources on order arrive as expected. By July 6th there are over 20 engines, seven dozers, seven crews, ten water tenders and 300 personnel committed. Besides California, personnel working on this incident came from states including Washington, Oregon, Wyoming, Idaho, Louisiana and Montana.

A Forth of July Parade is held at Incident Base. Resources including the vendors participated and were treated to a simulated fireworks display. Chemical light sticks and vehicle emergency warning lights provided the visual effects. The great attitudes and imaginations of all of the participants made for an enjoyable celebration.

On July 7th at 1800 the Corral fire is 100% contained at 12,434 acres. The burned area includes 6,598 acres of Private land, 4,747 acres of National Forest, and

Cub Complex



STATISTICS

Complex Fire #: CA-LNF-2713

Number of Fires: 4 fires

Major fires: (name and acres)

- Onion Fire 4,782
- Cub Fire 14,936
- Mill Fire (contained at <10)
- A-17 Fire (contained at <10)

County: Tehama

Affected Communities:

Chester, Lake Almanor, Butte
Meadows, Jonesville, Chic

Agencies in Command: USFS

Teams Assigned: Blue Mountain
Team, Southern Area Red
Team, NorCal Team II

Start Report Date:

6/21/08 at 1500 hrs.

Containment Date:

7/20/08 at 0600 hrs 100%

Total Acres: 7/22 – 19,718 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:
\$21,000,000 (per 209)

Firefighter Assigned at Peak:

1,230 – 7/11/08

Structures Destroyed: 0

Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 0

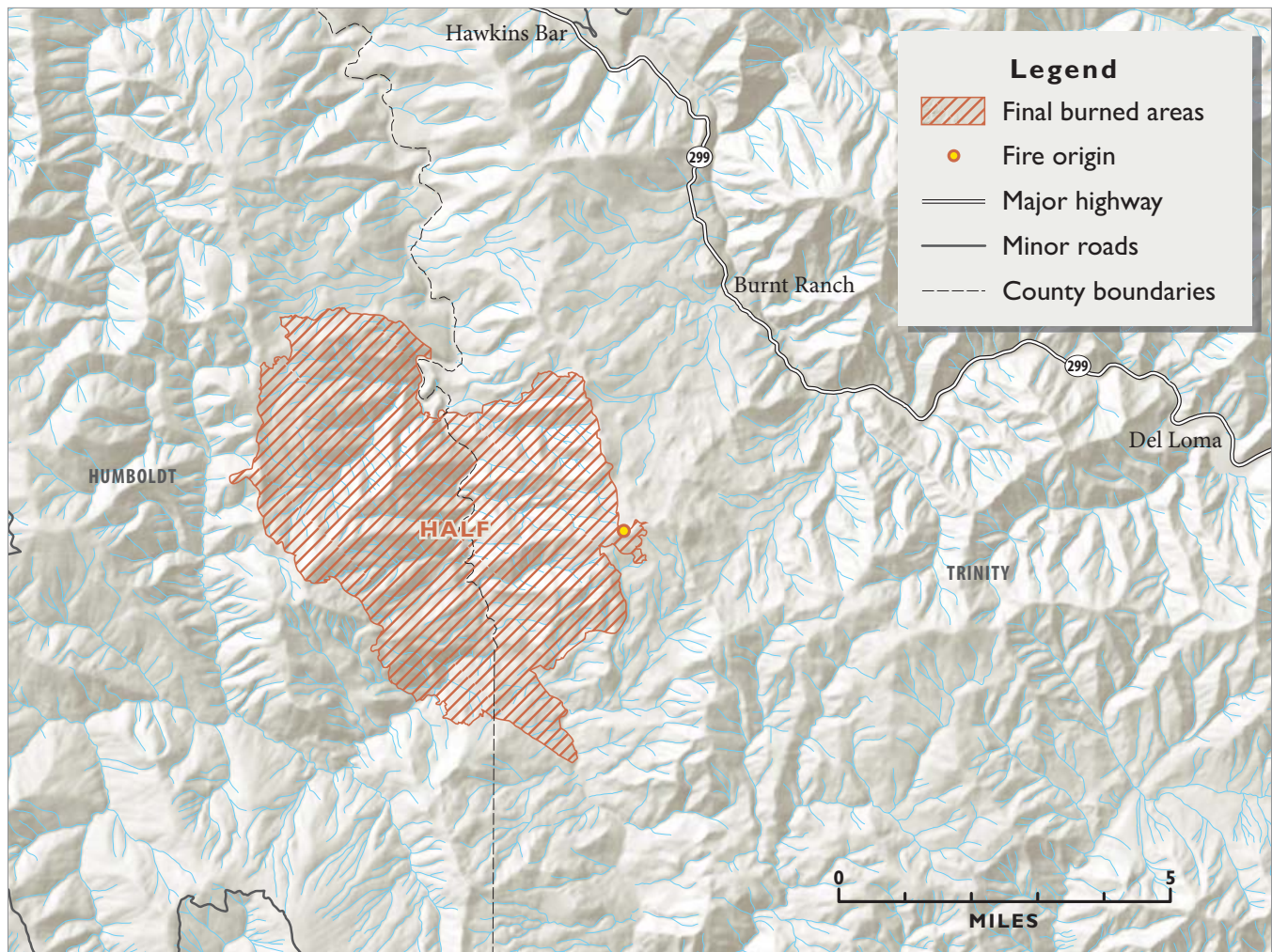
Fuels: Timber

Cause: Lightning

The Blue Mountain Team from Oregon takes command of the Cub Complex on June 23 and initially focuses attention on the Onion Fire which is closest to the road system. Two other fires discovered in the complex (Mill and A-17) are suppressed at less than 10 acres. By June 27, the Cub Fire remains unstaffed at 1100 acres. On June 29, all resources are still assigned to the Onion Fire. The Southern Area Red Team assumes command of the Cub Fire on July 2, and command of the Cub Complex, including the Onion Fire, on July 3. By July 4 there are 917 personnel assigned and a shift of resources from Onion Fire to Cub Fire occurs. By July 10, NorCal Team II assumes command of the Cub Complex. The Onion Fire is contained, and a major burnout operation is planned and successfully leads to the containment of the Cub Fire on July 20. On July 14, Hwy 32 was re-opened to controlled traffic.

The Cub Complex has a wide range of impacts, most notably the closing of Hwy 32, the primary route between Chico and Chester. The Cub Complex fires are located in Tehama County, with primary structure threats in Butte County affecting the communities of Butte Meadows and Jonesville. The most significant smoke impacts are in Plumas County, affecting the communities of Chester and Lake Almanor. A forest closure to protect public safety during the fire includes several campgrounds, numerous fishing sites, and a section of the Pacific Crest Trail.

Hells Half Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 11

Major fires: (name, date, acres)

- Grouse
- Grouse Half
- Sims
- Gary
- Sugar Loaf
- Packsaddle

(Sims, Gary and Sugar Loaf all merged into Grouse; Half and Grouse burned together 7/11; Gary Merged with Sugar Loaf; Packsaddle turned back to district 6/27)

County: Humboldt, Trinity

Affected Communities: Burnt Ranch, Hyampom, Manzanita Ranch, Upper Mill Creek, MacDonald, and Underwood

Agencies in Command: USFS

Teams assigned: USFS T-3 (Johnson), T-2 IMT (Secrest), T-1 IMT (Quesinberry)

Start Report Date: 6/20/2008 at 5:44 PM

Containment Date: 7/29/2008

Total Acres: 15,146 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs: \$14,080,104

Firefighters Assigned at Peak:

665 on 7/21

Structures Destroyed: 1 (seasonal residential)

Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 0

Fuels: Timber and conifer reproduction

Cause: Lightning

Hell's Half complex started as multiple lightning starts on June 20, 2008. The complex consisted of fire locations on both sides of the South Fork of the Trinity River in Humboldt and Trinity Counties. On the east side of the river was the Half Incident. The fire makes a major run from its mid-slope position to the top of the ridge reaching the the Shasta-Trinity National Forest boundary and is unstaffed. West of the river, are several fires with the potential to merge and burn an estimated 9,000 acres of forest and threatening the community of Hyampom.

By June 26th, total acreage is estimated at 1450 acres. Eight of the original 17 fires have been contained. Plantation loss on 6/23 was significant. The fires on the west side: Sims, Grouse, Gary, and Sugarloaf fires have merged together and now called the Grouse Fire and is 30% contained. The Half Fire is 0% and continued to be monitored. A Fire Weather Watch was issued for Friday evening through Sunday evening.

Both fires continue growing to the south and east, threatening residences and infra-structure. The Half Fire spreads within one-mile of structures and moves onto the Shasta Trinity National Forest. The Grouse fire is within a mile of the Route 6 powerline corridor. A population protection plan is drafted in coordination with Trinity County Sheriff and local volunteer fire departments.

On July 10th record heat and critically low humidity create extreme burning conditions and the Grouse and Half fires merge. The Grouse and Half Fires are renamed the Hell's Half Fire. The Grouse Fire makes a crown run of over a mile to the south and destroys one seasonal residence in the Grouse Creek area. Over 4,000 acres burn today, and by morning, the Hell's Half Complex is reported as 7,858 acres and 29% contained. Five residences in Big Slide and 50 residences in the West Hyampon area are evacuated. The transmission line along Grouse Creek is de-energized leaving approximately 300 residences without power. Competition for resources continues to hamper fire fighting efforts

On July 15, seven engines are re-assigned to the Iron Complex. The Hell's Half Complex is 10,424 acres and 40% contained by July 18th. Fifty-six residences in the Big Slide and Hyampon West areas are still under evacuation and fifteen occupied dwellings and outbuildings in the Dry Lake area are under mandatory evacuation. Although the power line near Grouse Creek was re-energized on the 13th, it continues to be threatened.

The Hell's Half Complex is 100% contained on July 28.

Humboldt Complex



STATISTICS

Complex Fire # CA-HUU-003384

Number of Fires: 60

Major fires: (name, date, acres)

• Paradise	7/14	950
• Lone Pine	6/24	95
• Williams	6/24	30
• Carson	6/24	55
• High	6/24	
• Larabee		
• Redcrest		

County: Humboldt

Affected Communities:

Shelter Cove

Agencies in Command:

CAL FIRE, Briceland Volunteer

Fire Department

Teams assigned: CAL FIRE's

Humboldt-Del Norte Unit

(HUU), Briceland Volunteer

Fire Department

Start Report Date:

6/21/2008 at 12:01 AM

Containment Date: 7/14/2008

Total Acres: 1,325 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:

\$9,000,000 (from 209)

Firefighters Assigned at Peak:

1325

Structures Destroyed: 0

Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 0

Fuels: Timber including old growth redwood, heavy slash, timber reproduction, and grass

Cause: Lightning

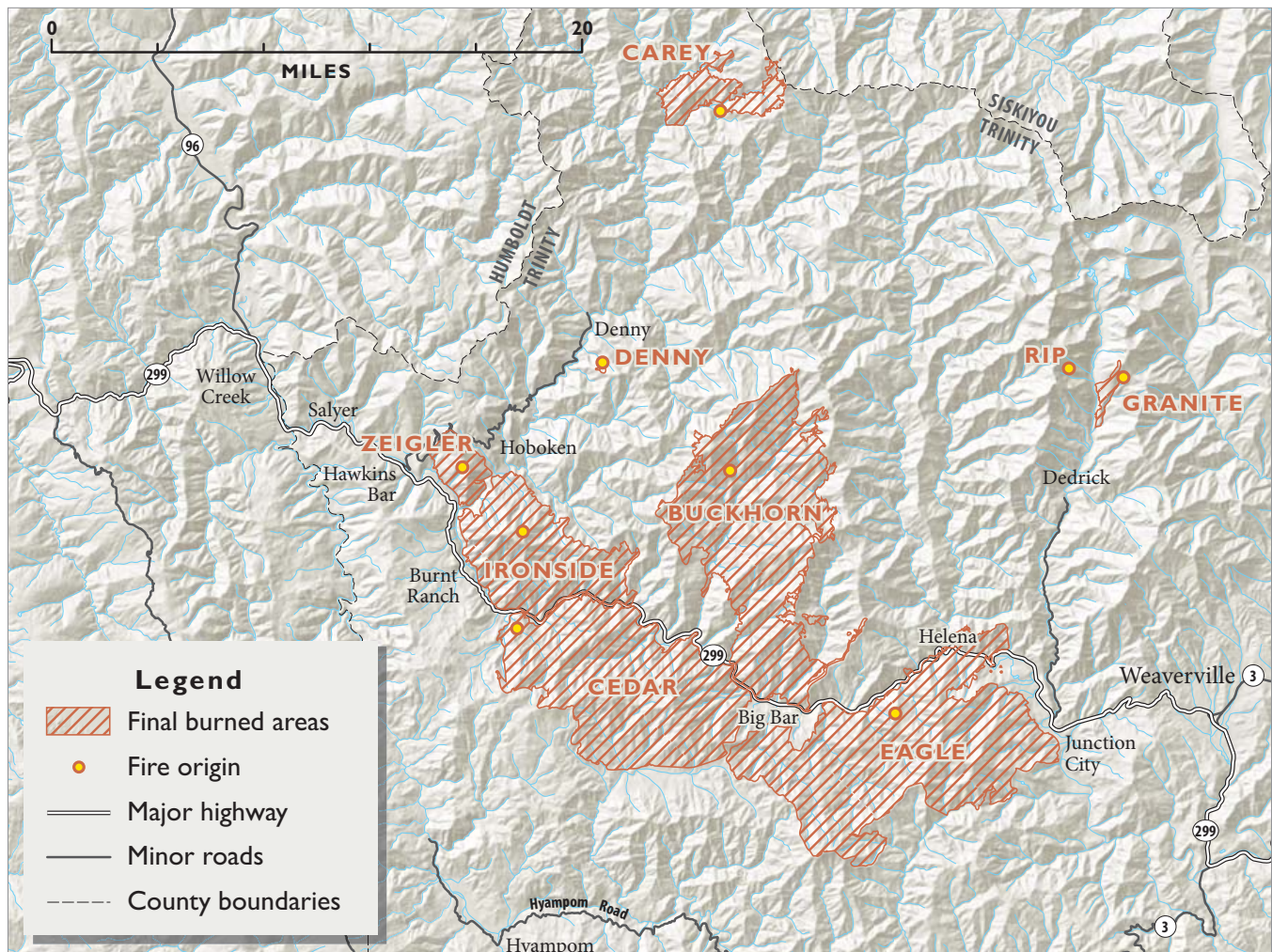
On the night of June 20, lightning ignited scores of fires hundreds of square miles of remote and rugged terrain. Although resources are stretched thin, the most of the fires were extinguished within the first two days, five fires remained as significant threats: High, Larabee, Redcrest, Lone Pine, and Paradise. The most parlous of those emerged as the Paradise Incident. Named for its location on Paradise Ridge in the King's Range on Bureau of Land Management preserve, it threatened the seaside community of Shelter Cove. First on the scene of the fire was the Briceland Fire Department. As other fires drained fire suppression resources from CALFIRE, the Paradise Incident was left in the capable hands of the volunteers well beyond its initial attack phase. Where other volunteer fire companies acquiesced to California's Fire Department immediately upon availability of an incident commander, the Paradise IC remained Diana Totten of Beginnings Fire Department for many days after its ignition, a move prompted by Operations Chiefs. It was a definite success story of local government participating with CALFIRE..

As resources became more available and other smaller fires in the region were quelled, personnel including OES engine companies, conservation camp crews and air resources pooled into base camp. It was no surprise that some fire fighters, tired from a season that started at the beginning of May were confused to come off of the Humboldt Incident in Paradise to the Paradise Incident in Humboldt.

The steep topography of Paradise Ridge yielded a low rate of injury considering the level of difficulty the terrain had to offer. The helitack program did a short haul rescue of a bee sting victim and local government extracted injured fire fighters out of a jagged ravine in the early morning hours who suffered from falling boulders.

All in all, it was a call of duty above and beyond by all cooperators to contain the Paradise Incident to 1,000 acres where it had the very real potential of consuming the 60,000 acres of the King's Range. The nearly evacuated sea park community of Shelter Cove was left unharmed. Many heroes emerged from the three week long siege during a highly unusual early summer storm.

Iron Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 36

(With addition of Alps Complex fires total of 48 fires)

Major fires: (name, date, acres)

Buckhorn	9/4/08	28,909
Eagle	9/1/08	32,059
Ironsides	7/23/08	12,720
Green Mtn		
Cedar	7/30/08	25,398
Canadian	7/1/08	62
Dedrick	6/30/08	39
Ziegler Fire	7/22/08	2,221

(Ironsides: 12 starts merged; includes Don Juan, Big, Lookout, Halsey Ridge, Side & Mtn Fires; Green Mtn, 5 starts merged—part of Alps complex 6/27)

County: Trinity

Affected Communities: Fisher Ranch, Haglund, Coopers Bar, Del Loma, Cedar Flat, Big Flat, Hawkins Bar, Helena, Weaverville, Brooks Ranch, Denny, Burnt Ranch, 5 Waters Ranch, Canyon Creek, Big Bar, Junction City, Corral Bottom

Agencies in Command: USFS

Teams Assigned: T-2 (Swartzlander); T-1 (Broyles), T-1 IMT#4 (Opliger), T-2 (Kaage), T-1 CIIMT #2 (Molumby); New Mexico IMT (Cowie); T-3 team (Brabender)

Start Report Date:

6/21/08 at 0928 hrs.

Containment Date: Unknown

Final report 9/4/08 when fires @ 98% containment

Total Acres: 105,805 acres on 9/4/08 includes Alps Complex

fires; Iron Complex fires alone

is 101,456 ac

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:

\$73,974,917 combined; Iron Complex is \$71,983,917

Firefighters Assigned at Peak:

2008 on 7/23

Structures Destroyed: 2

(1 residence and 1 outbuilding)

Structures Damaged: 1 residence

Fatalities: 10

Fuels: Timber, brush & grass

Cause: Lightning

The Iron Complex becomes the site of some of the most tragic events of the 2008 California Fire Siege – the death of an 18 year old engine captain due to a fatal tree falling accident; and a helicopter crash killing 9 people and critically injured 4 others. Two rollovers also occur during the Iron Complex. Additionally a dozer operator suffers a rollover with arm and shoulder injuries on July 1, and on July 30, the driver of a water tender sustains abdominal injuries in a rollover.

The Iron Complex burns north and south of Hwy 299. The complex includes a group of remote wilderness fires which at times are managed separately as the Alps Complex. Difficult terrain limits accessibility of the fires and contributes to the smoke impacts on communities and air operations. Closures of Hwy 299 heavily impact the transportation corridor between Redding and Eureka.

Extensive burn out operations are conducted during the Iron Complex. The need to burnout 23.5 miles of indirect line on the Eagle, Zeigler, and Cedar Fires was identified on July 1.

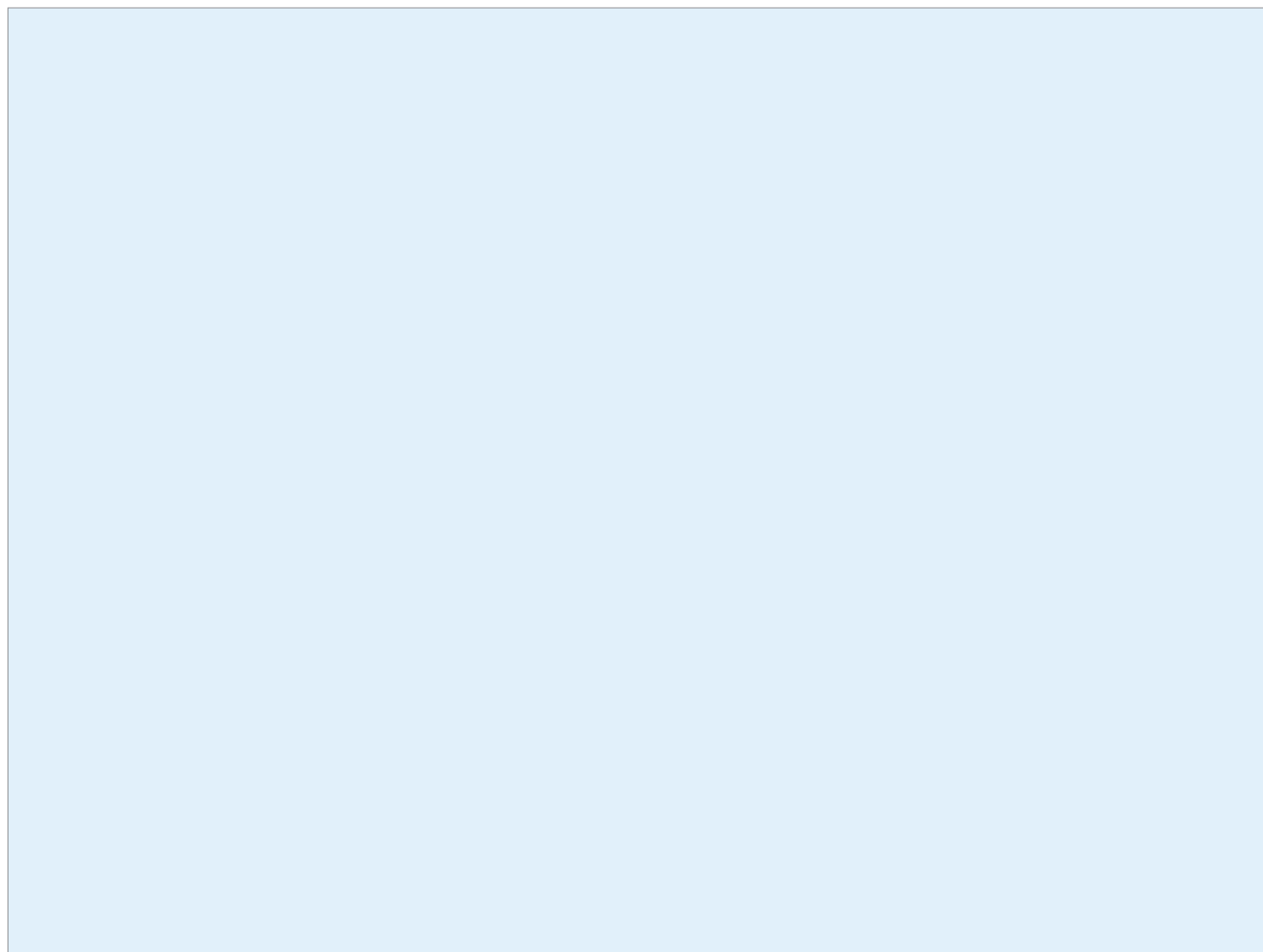
Fire behavior analysis is done in response to a request from the Hoopa Valley Tribe concerning movement of the Carey Fire west toward tribal interests on USFS lands. Periodic projections through the early days of the Complex assess where the fire is likely to spread.

Many communities are evacuated, including Big Bar and Junction City, which are evacuated multiple times. Early in July, an evacuation plan is developed for the Incident Command Post in Junction City which later becomes threatened by the Eagle Fire.

Several special teams are used during the Iron Complex. Taskforce Shovel is a California National Guard team of 240 is deployed for 3 weeks, engages in mop-up, suppression damage repair and rehabilitation. A Serious Accident Investigation Team and an Occupational Health and Safety Team are on scene to investigate the circumstances of the tree falling fatality. Later, a National Incident Management Organization (NIMO) Team manages the series of investigations prompted by the helicopter accident (Iron 44 incident), including another Serious Accident Investigations Team, and the National Transportation Safety Board, and Law Enforcement. The NIMO Team also works with the families and in planning the memorial services. Two Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Teams (CISD) provide services to incident personnel who experience the tragedy of the Iron 44 incident.

In September, the community of Junction City hosts a memorial service for the residents of Trinity County commemorating the lives that were lost during the Iron Complex. Engraved bronze plaques in Junction City preserve the memory of their sacrifice.

June Lightning (LMU) Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 50

Major Fires: Popcorn/Peterson
and Corral became separate
complexes

County: Lassen

Affected Communities:

Agencies in Command:

CAL FIRE, USFS, BLM

Teams assigned: CAL FIRE's

Lassen-Modoc-Plumas Unit,

USFS Lassen National Forest,

BLM Susanville District

Start Report Date:

6/21/2008

Containment Date:

Total Acres:

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:

Firefighters Assigned at Peak:

Structures Destroyed:

Structures Damaged:

Fatalities:

Fuels: Timber, brush, grass

Cause: Lightning

By the evening of June 21st, the Lassen Modoc Plumas Unit (LMU) is reporting a total of 26 lightning fires. Twenty of the fires are unstaffed because of poor access and limited available equipment. Over night the conditions do not improve and the next morning dawns with 45 total fires, 30 of which are unstaffed. Limited firefighting resources are available due to the heavy commitment on multiple lightning fires in other areas.

By June 22, 2008, there are a total of 52 fires burning on CAL FIRE direct protection lands in the LMU. All but 2 of these fires were eventually contained at less than 100 acres. The 2 major fires (Popcorn and Corral) both required Type 1 incident command organizational structures. The heavy commitment of CAL FIRE Incident Command Teams in other areas necessitated the use of Federal Incident Management Teams (IMT) on these State fires.

The Popcorn Fire originates on the Shasta-Trinity Unit, spreads onto LMU on June 22 and LMU assumed command. The fire, burning in the Popcorn Wild and Scenic Area, is an immediate threat to the Pitt River Power transmission lines. Precautionary

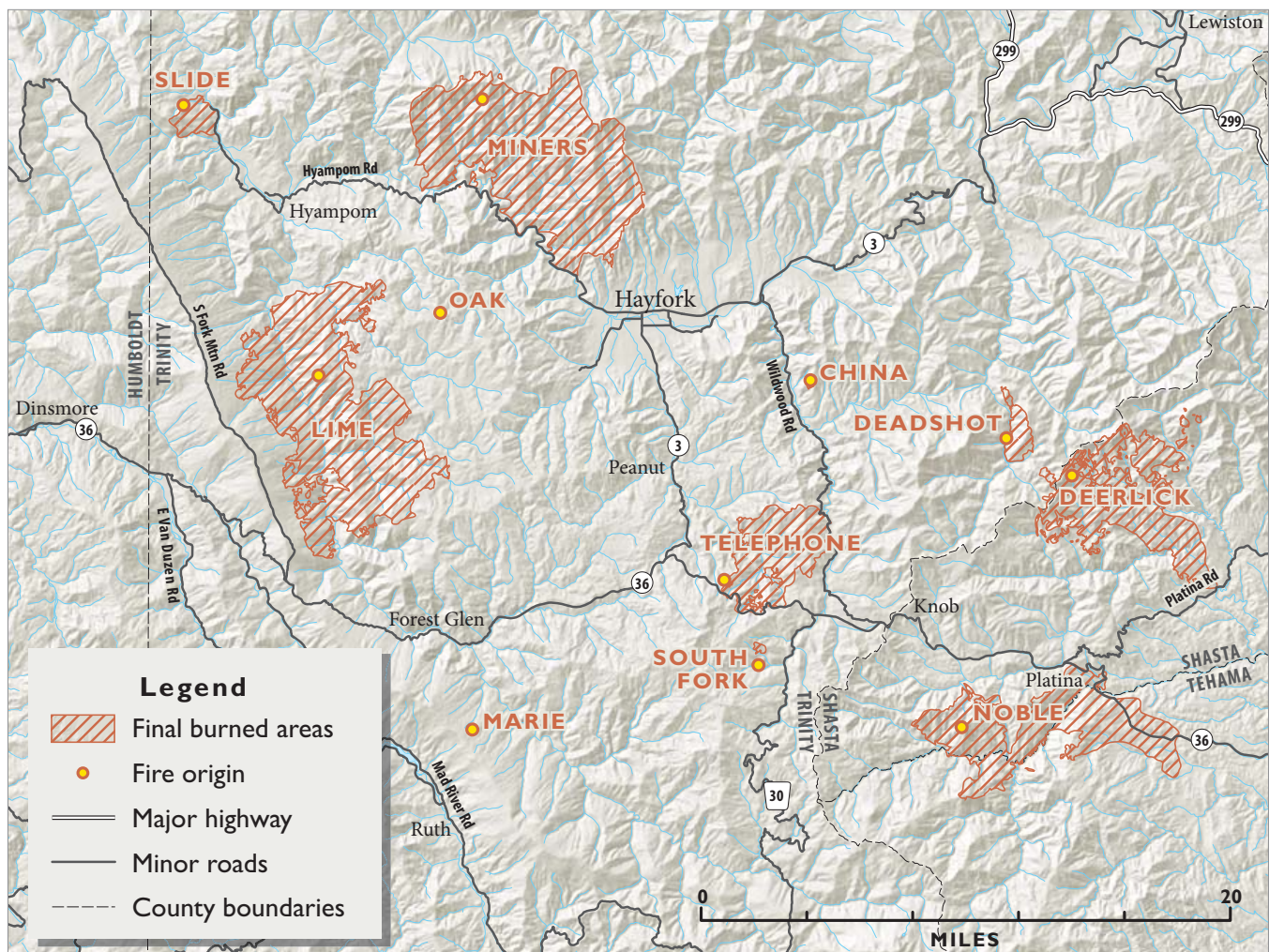
evacuations are in progress and helicopters, engines and crews are identified as critical resource needs. This fire was the number one LMU priority.

By June 23 at 1800 hours, fire fighting personnel were having good success with 44 of 52 total fires contained. Reconnaissance aircraft fly the unit looking for hold over (undetected/unreported) fires from the prior days lightning. A new fire is discovered late in the afternoon in Gooch Valley (Corral Fire).

Separate reporting of Popcorn fire and Corral Fire began June 24. No new fires were reported after the discovery of the Corral Fire. All of the remaining fires in the LMU June Lightning Complex are being mopped up and patrolled. Excess resources and personnel are reassigned to the Corral Fire.

The LMU June Lightning Complex is declared 100% contained on June 25 with a total of 50 acres burned.

Lime Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 72 fires

Major fires: (name, date, acres)

Noble	7/11/08	12,870
Slide	6/26/08	1,547
Telephone	7/3/08	6,643
Deadshot	7/1/08	1,070
Fisher	6/26/08	
Miners	8/14/08	24,370
Lime	8/14/08	24,984
Rainbow	7/5/08	292
Trough	7/5/08	

(Slide fire merged with Vinegar; Telephone escaped lines on 7/10 with 100% containment on 7/12; Iron (Yolla Bolly Wilderness) Wilderness – Fire merged with Vinegar and Sulfur, Trough escaped lines on 1/8 making a major run and merged with Rainbow on 7/11; 100% containment on 7/21 at 3,690 acres)

Some of the fires listed after Lime were included in the Yolla Bolly Complex after it returned to its own separate incident

County: Trinity

Affected Communities:

Wildwood, Hayfork, Hyampom, Platina, Harrison Gulch

Agencies in Command: USFS

Teams Assigned: IMT T-2 (Kaage), T-1 IMT#4 (Opliger), Southwest IMT T-1 (Hughes); SO Cal T-2 (Woychak), AK IMT T-1 (Wilcock), T-2 IMT (Woychak)

Start Report Date:
6/20/08 at 1650 hrs.

Containment Date: 8/12/08

with 64,502 acres burned

Total Acres: 99,585 acres per final 209 on 8/30

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:
\$59,329,698

Firefighters Assigned at Peak:
1,628 on 7/22

Structures Destroyed: 5
(1 residential, 1 commercial, 3 outbuildings)

Structures Damaged: 0

Fuels: Timber, Chaparral

Cause: Lightning

The Lime Complex fires start with a series of lightning strikes on June 20 and 21. The fires are initially divided into three Branches: North (Slide Fire), Hyampom and South (Telephone, Deadshot and Noble Fires) Branches. On June 25, crews are pulled off of the Deadshot Fire when a fire on a neighboring jurisdiction compromises the road system. Crews on the South Peak Fire withdraw as fire intensity increases and the fire spots across the canyon. On June 26 the entire complex transitions to CIIMT 4 (Opliger). Two spike camps are established.

June 26 the Iron Fire makes a major run. Early on, the community of Platina is evacuated, and an evacuation center is established in Redding. Wildwood is under a voluntary evacuation order, with another evacuation center located in Weaverville. By June 29, eight days into the incident, 31 out of 72 fires within the complex are contained. Highways 36 and 3 are impacted by the fires and smoke and temporary closures of Highway 36 are necessary. Fires on the Six Rivers National Forest and Mendocino National Forest affect operations on the Lime Complex. Coordination between Lime Complex, Iron Complex, and other nearby fires is critical for planning burning operations.

The Martin Mars flying boat is used effectively on the Iron fire. National Guard Taskforce “Pick”, made up of 200 guard members, conducts holding and mopping operations on the Telephone Fire. A battalion of U.S. Marines is also deployed to the complex. On July 7, AK IMT T-1 (Wilcock) assumes command and on the next day the Yolla Bolly complex comes under the Lime Complex. On July 10 the Lime and Iron fires make large runs.

From July 8 to July 22, the Lime Complex assumes command of the Yolla Bolly Complex. On July 15, the Thomes, Slides and Vinegar fires merge, creating a larger Vinegar Fire.

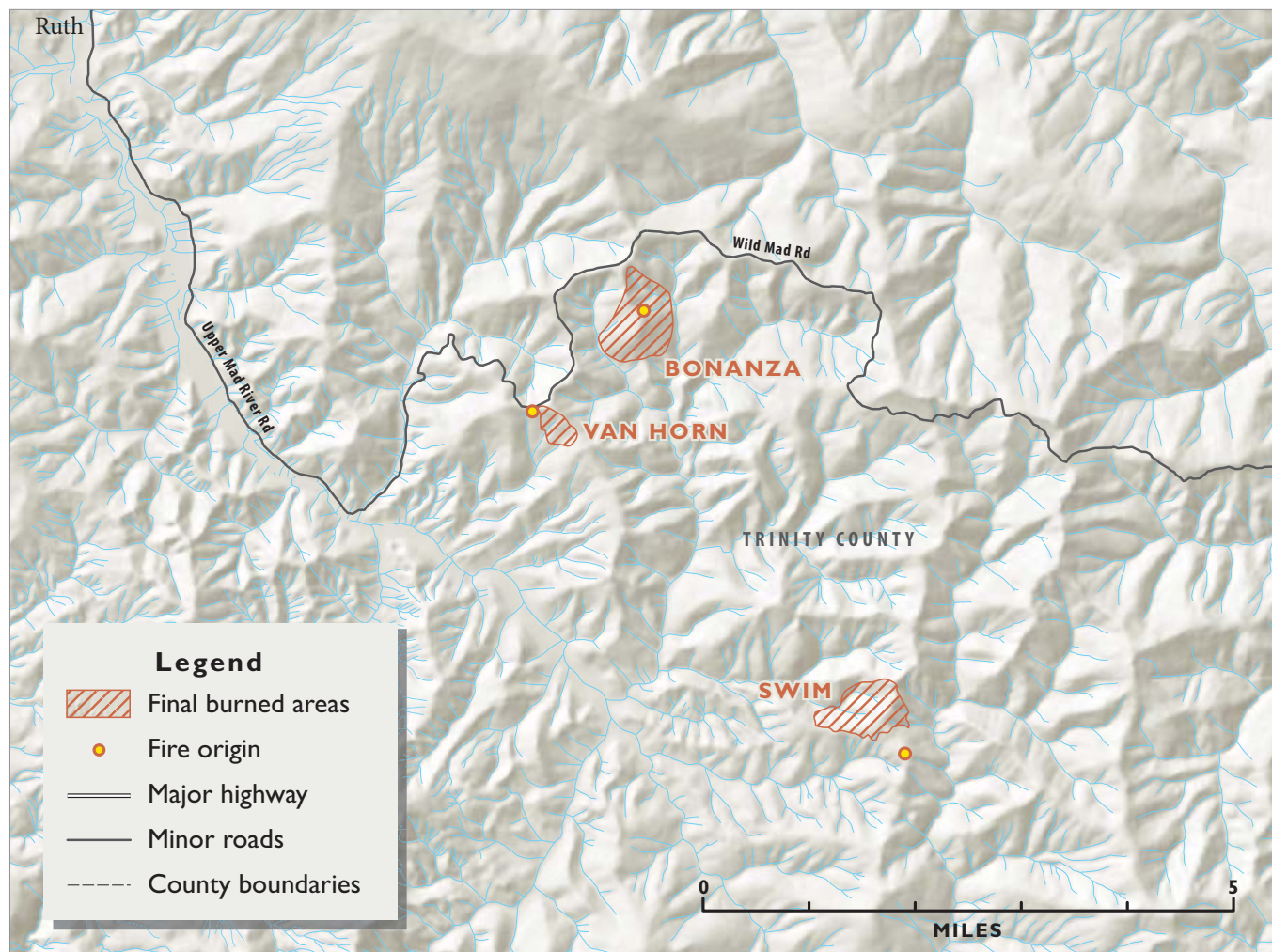
July 11, a plume dominated fire on Yellow, Iron, & Wilderness fires causes expansion and the Iron, Wilderness #2, Wilderness #3 & Harvey Fires merge and are called the Iron-Harvey. Coordination with Iron Complex allows fire fighters to complete burnout operations between the Eagle and Miners Fires. The Thomes, Slides, & Vinegar fires merge to be called the Vinegar Fire. A significant crown run on Miners Fire July 16 moves the Miners Fire toward heavy blowdown fuels.

The small number of structures that are lost include the Lymedyke Lookout, a commercial structure, and a motor home burning on the Lime Fire near Friend’s Place.

July 22, South West T-1 IMT (Hughes) assumes command. The Yellow Fire, Vinegar Fire, Trough Fire, and Grouse Fires are moved to the Yolla Bolly Complex (CA-MNF-000663). CIMT T-1 (Larson) assumes command of Yolla Bolly Complex.

A departure Ceremony for CNG Task Force “Pick” is held on July 29. New Spike camp is established at Forest Glen to support resources on the Lime Fire. On August 5, Southern California T-2 IMT (Woychak) assumes command. The Lime Complex is fully contained on August 12 with 64,502 acres burned.

Mad Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 36

Major fires: (name, date, acres)

• Travis	6/26	1,700
• Bonanza	7/3	1,370
• Waterspout I	7/3	137
• Van Horn	6/33	66
• Swim	6/27	210
• Nielson	6/23	100
• Lost Ck	7/3	50

(Travis: 6/28 209 shows only 80% containment; Waterspout I includes Spring and Creek Fires; Swim spot fire 6/28, declared contained again on 6/29; Fires from southern portion of SRF lightning complex CA- SRF-001036 now under the Mad Complex)

County: Humboldt, Trinity

Affected Communities: Three Forks and Mad River

Agencies in Command: USFS

T-3 IC (Liba)

Teams assigned: T-3 (Hays), T-3 (Liba); Ak T-3 (Lenon), T-4 (Howard), T-4 (Rudney)

Start Report Date: 6/20/2008 at 4:00 PM

Containment Date: 7/12/2008

Total Acres: 3,705 acres (on 6/22 which was the last acreage reported under this incident #).

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:

\$6,900,000 per final 209 on 8/1

Firefighters Assigned at Peak:

388 on 7/4

Structures Destroyed: 0

Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 0

Fuels: Timber and grass

Cause: Lightning

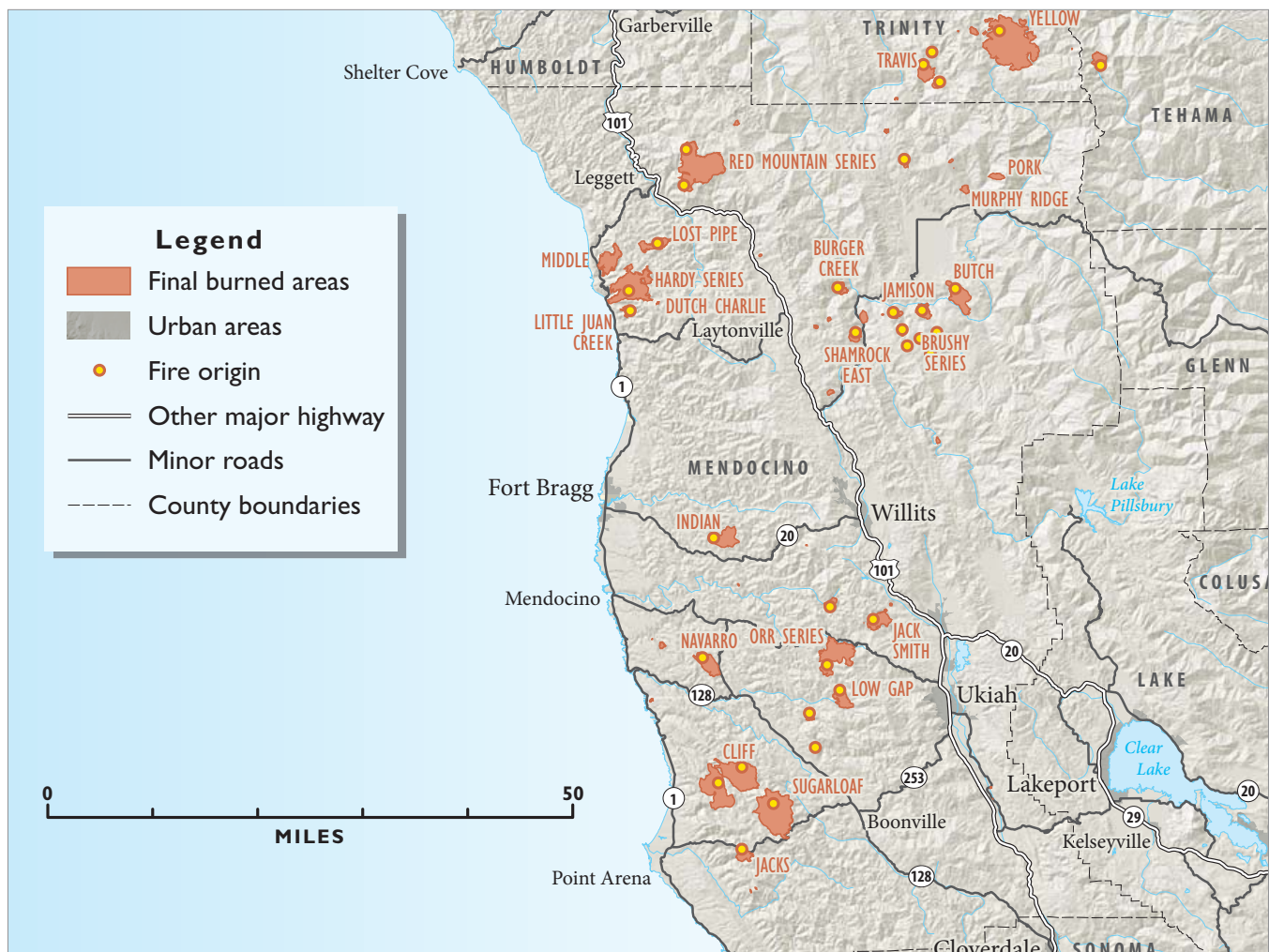
The Mad Complex consists of 35 fires dispersed throughout the Mad River Ranger District of the Six Rivers National Forest. The fires start during the lightning storm on June 20th and threaten approximately 75 residences scattered throughout the district. Due to competition for resources, several fires in wilderness areas remain unstaffed. July 1 the Creek, Waterspout and Spring fires merge and are now called the Waterspout I Fire.

Crews make good progress on a majority of the fires and by July 3 twenty-six fires were 100% contained with eight fires still not staffed. The Bonanza fire, burning in steep terrain continues to be a factor and unstaffed fires on from adjacent complexes threatened to expand into the district.

By July 7th, the complex was reported as 3,705 acres and 90% contained due to three uncontained fires in the wilderness area. The remaining 32 fires were 100% contained. Crews were actively patrolling 34 fires. The Trough Fire from the Lime Complex burned into the Mad Complex area.

On July 13, the Mad Complex is close to being fully contained and command is transferred back to the local district. Four of the larger fires: Travis, Bonanza, Waterspout I, and Van Horn, continue to have interior burning. Starting July 10, some of the Lime Complex personnel are logistically supported by the Mad Complex Incident Command Base. July 16 the Lime Complex assumes responsibility of the Mad Complex.

Mendocino Lightning Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 129

Major fires: (name, date, acres)

- Navarro
6/27 3,000
- Orr Series, Jack Smith
& Low Gap
- Red Mtn Fire
- Cliff, Mallo, Sugarloaf Fires
7/17 6,100
- Hardy, Lost Pipe, Middle
7/17 5,550

- Shamrock East
7/17 469
- County:** Mendocino
- Affected Communities:** Foster Creek, Greenfield Ranch, Chicken Ridge, Orr Springs Road, Hearst, Cherry Ck, Running Springs, Rockport, Fort Bragg, Ukiah Valley, Cummings, Leggett, Signal Ridge, Sky Ranch Estates, Howard Ck.

Agencies in Command: CAL FIRE's Mendocino Unit (MEU)

Teams assigned: CAL FIRE ICT # 4 (Waterman)

Start Report Date: 6/20/08 at 1800 hrs.

Containment Date: 7/17/08

Total Acres: 54,819

Direct Fire Suppression Costs: \$66,000,000 per 209 on 12/1/08

Firefighter Assigned at Peak: 2,290 on 7/16

Structures Destroyed: 2 total (1 residence and 1 outbuilding)

Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 1 on 7/3 – Mendocino County local government volunteer firefighter

Fuels: Timber, brush, and grass

Cause: Lightning

While the Mendocino Unit is able to contain most of its 129 lightning fires within a few days after the storm, about a dozen become large, damaging fires that take several weeks to contain. Long duration fires include the Mallo, Cliff, and Sugarloaf fires in the rugged heavily forested coastal area between Boonville and Point Arena. The Navarro Fire to the north is actively burning in coast redwood. These fires burn a significant amount of commercial timberland.

A second major group of large damaging fires is concentrated along the coast north of Fort Bragg, where the Middle, Hardy, Lost Pipe, and Little Juan Creek fires burn in valuable redwood timber. Several of these fires are on the lands of Mendocino Redwood Company, which takes aggressive independent firefighting action until CAL FIRE can obtain enough suppression resources to begin staffing them.

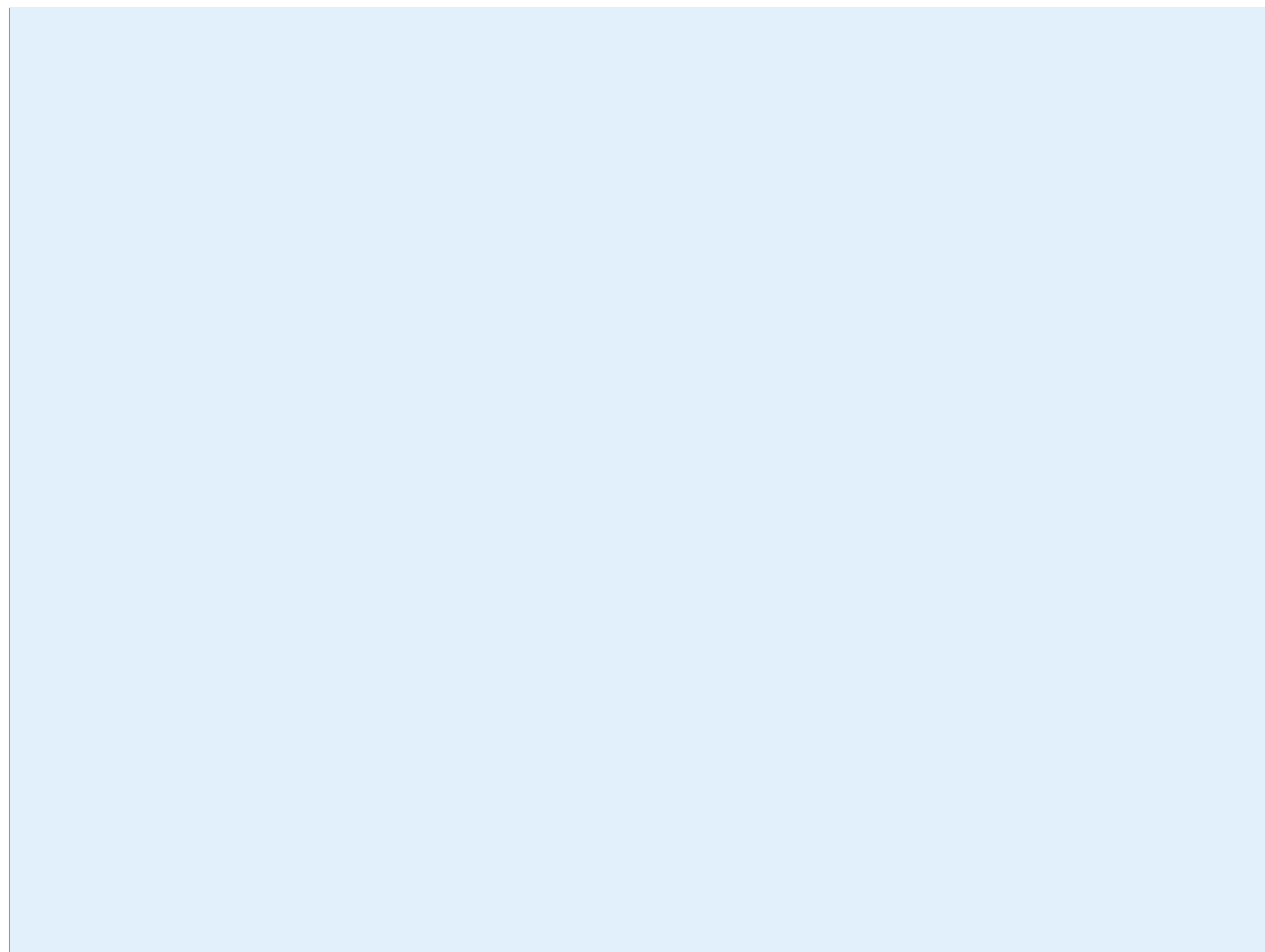
A third group of major fires is located west of Ukiah, where the Orr Series Jack Smith, Horse, and Low Gap fires have the potential to merge into one giant fire. This can pose a significant threat to the heavily populated Ukiah Valley. Evacuation plans for the Ukiah area are developed in conjunction with Mendocino County authorities, but large-scale evacuations do not become necessary. These fires threaten Montgomery Woods State Park, and Orr's Springs Resort where some evacuations take place.

Several other large fires, including the Red Mountain, Indian, Butch, Jamison, and Travis Fires are located in remote, rugged, difficult to access, mountainous terrain. It takes a while to gather enough suppression resources to contain these fires. The Red Mountain Fire is particularly troublesome, burning with high intensity on several days and threatens a high-value international fiber optic communications cable.

The geographic scope of this complex provides a significant organizational and logistics challenge for the MEU and CAL FIRE's Incident Command Team #4. Creative tactics, determination, hard work and cooperation between state and local agencies and the large, private landowners proves a winning combination in the long run.

The fires burn commercial timber, valued at more than \$65 million, but only two structures are destroyed. Sadly, a volunteer firefighter from the Anderson Valley Volunteer Fire Department lost his life fighting these fires.

Oliver Fire



STATISTICS

Complex Fire # CA-MMU-008107

Number of Fires: 1

County: Mariposa

Affected Communities: Ponderosa
Basin subdivision , Wawona
(within Yosemite National Park),
Cedar Valley and Fish Camp

Agencies in Command: Unified
command with CalFire, Mariposa
Co. Fire Department, Mariposa
Co. Sheriff, and California
Highway Patrol

Start Report Date:
06/21/2008 at 5:10 PM

Containment Date: 07/05/2008

Total Acres: 2,789 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:
\$12,217,857

Firefighter Assigned at Peak:
Structures Destroyed: 0
Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 0

Fuels: Mixed timber, heavy
brush, jackpots of heavy fuels
and downed fuels.

Cause: Lightning

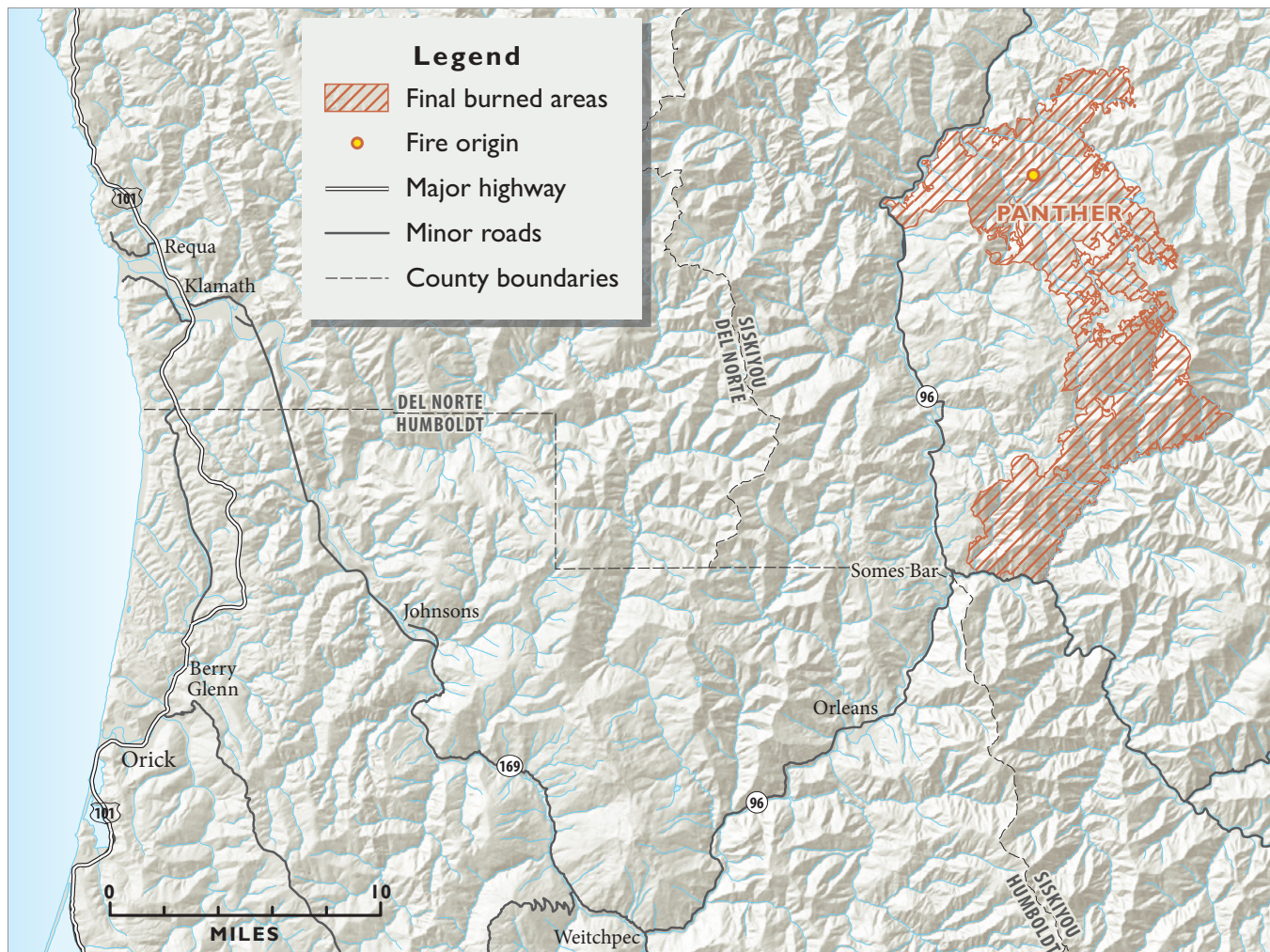
On the evening of June 21, the Oliver Fire is ignited by lightning and reported north of Ponderosa Basin in Mariposa County. When the CALFIRE team takes command on the 24th, the fire is at 1,400 acres and 15 percent contained. Burning in timber, the fire moves towards the Ponderosa Basin subdivision, threatening 200 residences and 225 outbuildings. Evacuations are underway.

On June 25, with a weather warning for possible outflow winds associated with thunderstorm development in the Sierras, the fire continues to burn in steep inaccessible terrain with heavy fuels. It has burned 2,200 acres, 750 to 800 acres of timber and threatens more than 100,000 additional acres of

timber. Watershed values at risk include the Devils Gulch drainage which is a major tributary to the Wild and Scenic Merced River. A Forest Service Resource Advisor is working with the team to identify historical sites within the fire area.

Crews continue to make progress through June 30 with line construction and improvement while large unburned islands continue to have activity. Only a few areas result in slow, difficult progress for crews. July 2, the evacuation warnings for the residents in the Ponderosa Basin are lifted as containment lines continue to hold. The Oliver Fire is fully contained on July 5.

Panther Fire



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 2 fires total (beginning 8/16 when Ukonom North added to Panther)

Major fires:

- Panther: on 8/29 fire was 24,954 acres and 75% contained; on the final Klamath Theater 209 on 9/26 it was 82% contained with no acreage provided as an individual fire.

- North Ukonom (added on 9/13): on 8/29 fire was 23,154 acres and 75% contained. On the 9/23 Klamath Theater 209 the fire was 100% contained with no acreage provided.

County: Siskiyou

Affected Communities:

Structures along Klamath River

Agencies in Command: US Forest

Service, Klamath National Forest

Teams assigned USFS: T-3

(Baker); 7/27, CIIMT 5,

(Dietrick); 7/29, T-1 (McGowan); 8/12, Great Basin IMT T-2 (Harvey); 9/13, NIMO, (Gage under Klamath Theatre); T-2 IMT (Kaage); IC T-3 (Cherry).

Start Report Date:

7/22/2008 at 12:21 AM

Containment Date: 10/8/2008

Total Acres: 9/26 – 53,149 acres (includes North Ukonom acreage) 10/8 – 72,344 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:

Per final Klamath Theater 209: Panther Only \$16,270,273; and Ukonom Fire (Combines North and South) - \$25,757,622

Firefighters Assigned at Peak:

864 on 8/11

Structures Destroyed: 0

Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 1 on 7/27

Fuels: Timber, brush, snags

Cause: Lightning

Ignited by lightning, the Panther Fire is reported on July 24 in a steep inaccessible area 15 miles south of Happy Camp. Spreading at a slow rate, with some individual trees torching, early fire reports indicate possible containment by the end of the month.

On July 26, Chief Daniel Bruce Packer, 49, of Lake Tapps, Washington, suffers fatal injuries resulting from thermal burns and smoke inhalation after deploying his fire shelter when the fire activity suddenly increases. Rolling material is driving the fire down the slope towards Ukonom Creek and the Klamath River. Large standing snags, left by '87 King Titus Fire, are actively burning. Thirty residences and 60 outbuildings are threatened.

By August 2, the Panther Fire grows to 7,115 acres with no containment. Crossing Ukonom Creek, burning toward the Ukonom Lookout and to the northwest of Ten Bear Mountain. The smoke column is clearly visible from Highway 96. A Fire Weather Watch is issued for thunderstorms and dry lightning from August 5th through 6th.

On August 15, favorable weather conditions allows firefighters to make good progress as they secure fire lines and conduct mop up activities. The Panther Fire is 60 percent contained and 23,214 acres. The Panther Fire is now being managed along with the North Ukonom Fire by one incident management team.

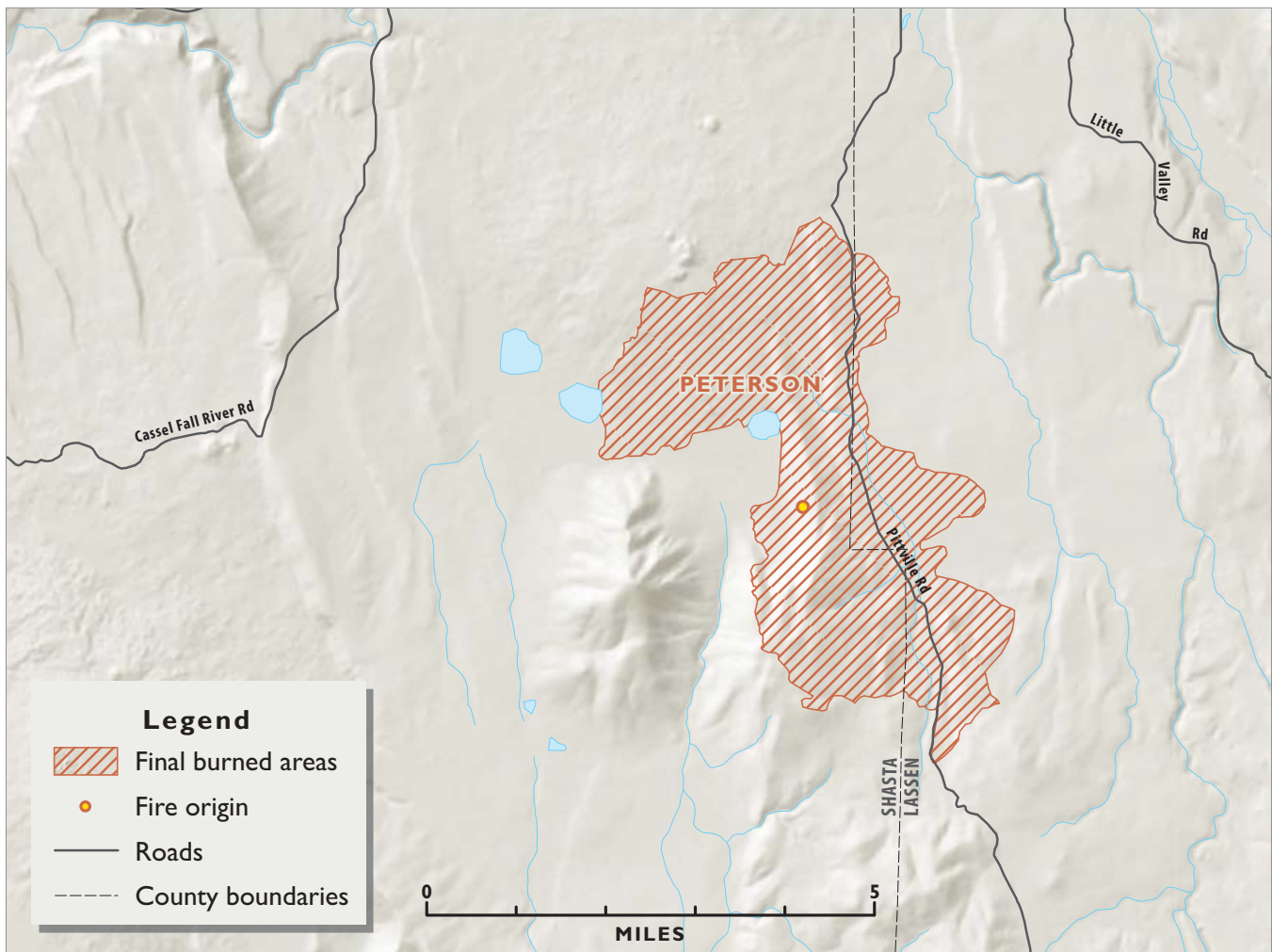
As the Panther and North Ukonom Fires continue burning east into the Marble Mountain Wilderness area, containment objectives are met on the fireline outside of the wilderness area on August 20, 2008. The fires within the wilderness area are closely monitored as they continue to burn naturally. Meanwhile smoke impacts along Klamath River corridor restrict recreational activities and close various sites along the river.

By September 11, at 49,029 acres and 75 percent contained, the management of the Panther is transferred to the Klamath Theater as fire managers await the autumn rains.

October 2 a south wind caused a big run with long range spotting and the fire.

Jurisdiction: US Forest Service, Klamath National Forest
Cooperating Agencies: Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Park Service and US Fish and Wildlife Service, Siskiyou County Sheriff, Cal-Trans

Popcorn/Peterson Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 3

Major fires:

- Popcorn
- Peterson
- H-1

County: Shasta and Lassen

Affected Communities: Little Valley, and Pittville

Agencies in Command: Unified Command, USFS, CAL FIRE

Teams assigned: Unified Command, USFS Lassen National Forest (LNF) & CAL

FIRE's Lassen-Modoc-Plumas Unit (LMU)

Start Report Date: 6/21/2008 at 4:00 PM

Containment Date: 6/30/2008

Total Acres: 7,842 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:

\$2,649,044

Firefighters Assigned at Peak: 404

Structures Destroyed: 0

Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 0

Fuels: Timber, brush, and grass

Cause: Lightning

The **Peterson Complex** is composed of three fires, the H-1, Popcorn Fire and Peterson Fires, located twelve miles east of Cassel. The fires start during the lightning storm on June 21st and are burning in timber, brush and grass on steep southern aspects.

The Popcorn Fire originates in Shasta County under the SHU Burney Battalion LCA, quickly burns onto the Lassen - Modoc Unit (LMU) and is included in the LMU June Lightning Complex. On June 23 the Popcorn Fire is separated from the LMU June Lightning complex and reported as a separate incident.

The Peterson Fire is reported by the Lassen National Forest (LNF). The Communities of Little Valley and Pittville are threatened and under precautionary evacuation. As predicted, the 3,000 acre Popcorn Fire and the 1,200 acre Peterson Fire merge.

When the Popcorn Fire merges with the Peterson Fire on June 24 unified command with CAL FIRE and USFS is established. On June 25, the Type 1 team (Southern Red Team, Mark Ruggerio - IC) under unified command

with CAL FIRE (Steve Emerick) transition and the fires are moved to a new incident number (CA-LNF-002725) named the Peterson Complex.

The fire damages and threatens a PG&E power line which is shut down. The fire also poses a threat to the railroad lines and an endangered trout species. Spot fires continue to hamper containment strategies for many days. On June 28, Red Flag warnings are in place for a threat of dry lightning. Resources from the Peterson Complex are made available as the team prepares to transition the Complex to a type 3 organization under the Forest.

The Peterson Complex is 100% contained at 7,842 acres on June 30th. The morning of July 1, the fire transitioned management back to the LNF.

[illegible]

Firefighter Assigned at Peak:
2,779 on 7/16

Structures Destroyed: 22 total
(6 residences and 16 outbuildings)

Structures Damaged: 3 total (2
residences and 1 outbuilding)

Fatalities: 0

Fuels: Timber, Oak woodland,
brush and grass

Cause: lightning

The storm enters western Trinity County at approximately 1730 hours the afternoon of June 20th. By 06:30 am June 21st command center begins receiving reports of fires. An initial report of 40 confirmed fires is released.

By June 23rd the lightning subsides but reports of new fires continue. A total of 158 fires were started by the lightning event with all areas of the unit (western Trinity and Shasta County) having active fires. All of the unit's engines and fire crews were assigned and personnel were called back to staff the reserve and camp fire engines. This left the Unit with one available Shasta County Fire engine and one CAL FIRE engine for additional initial attack fires and medical emergencies. Assistance from local fire agencies is requested until additional CAL FIRE resources are moved in to the area.

CAL FIRE Incident Command Team 10 (Kershen) assumes command on June 23rd. Given the priority of life and property protection over natural resource values, the strategy for the complex is to attack the small fires first, and concentrate scarce resources such as aircraft on the fires on the east side of the Sacramento Valley that posed threats to more populated areas, particularly the Whitmore and Shingletown communities. Located uphill from heavy brush fuels, the homes concentrated in these scenic woodland and timber settings are particularly vulnerable. An additional concern was to keep the two main eastbound highways (44 and 299) from Redding open, if possible.

This strategy resulted in all but five of the 158 total fires being contained by June 27th. The Stein Fire was contained on July 1st and the Lower Fire was contained on the Fourth of July, leaving only three fires uncontained.

Unfortunately, the three remaining fires (the Deerlick, Moon, and Motion Fires) are now well-established in very difficult terrain. At the end of the second week, temperatures exceed 110 degrees with unusually strong northerly winds. This weather pattern causes the greatest single increase in fire behavior for the entire incident.

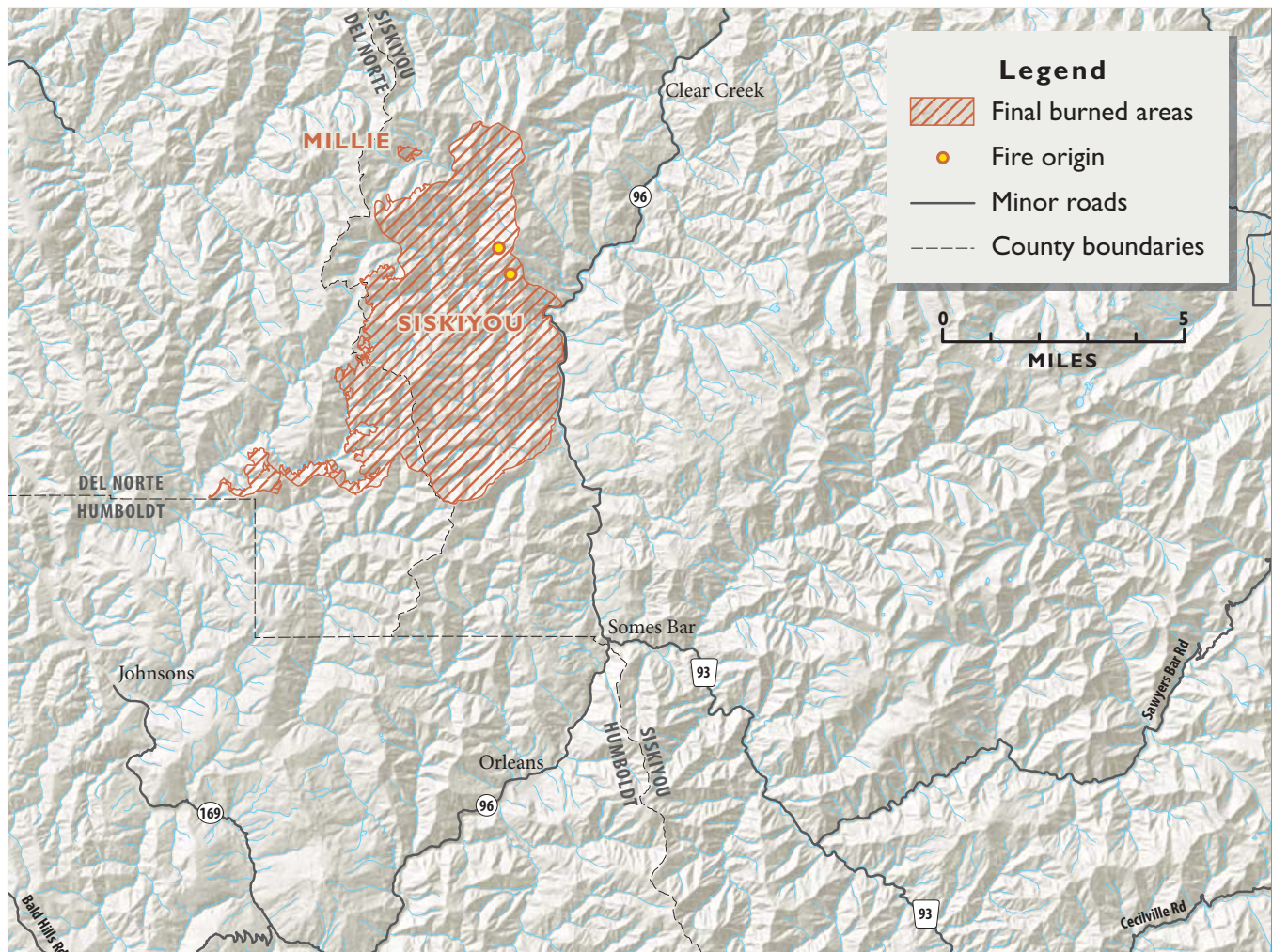
The Motion Fire was burning in the Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Area west of Lake Shasta. This fire posed a significant threat to the Western Power Grid electric generation and transmission facilities at Shasta Dam.

The Moon Fire was burning in the vicinity of the small communities of Igo and Ono, west of Redding and eventually merged with the fires burning in the Whiskeytown National Recreation Area. On July 9, high temperatures, low RH, gusty, erratic winds will drive the Moon Fire into the populated areas of these communities, and firefighters spend an exciting, but exhausting afternoon and evening of house-to-house fire combat.

The Deer Lick Fire was located in the remote, rugged mountainous terrain along the Trinity/Shasta county line. This fire was not an immediate threat to any populated areas, but is in terrain requiring large numbers of hand crews, which were in extremely short supply for a long time.

After several weeks of intensive effort, the Deer Lick Fire is contained on July 15th; the Moon Fire is contained on July 21st; and the Motion Fire is contained on July 26th.

Siskiyou Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 6 fires total
(5 original; with Blue 2 fire added on 8/13)

Major fires:

- Mill Fire: merged with Dark-Three
- Dark-Three Fire
- Jackass Too: absorbed by Dark-Three 7/9
- Headwaters: (WFU) converted to suppression fire using AMU on 7/9

- Blue 2 Fire: added on 8/13 when the two incidents combined in KNF-002975

County: Siskiyou

Affected Communities:

Structures along Klamath River, Dillon Creek Campground, and Sacred Native American sites

Agencies in Command: USFS

Teams assigned USFS – 6/22

ORCA IMT-2, (Paul); 7/6 Nor Cal IMT 1, (Swartzlander); 7/21 CIIMT 5, (Dietrick); 8/2 Alaska

T-1, (Wilcock); 8/19 ORCA IMT-2, (Paul); 9/1 IMT T-3, (Bowers); 9/13, NIMO, (Gage under Klamath Theatre).

Start Report Date: 6/21/2008 at 2:00 AM

Containment Date: 9/26/2008

Total Acres: 9/26 – 88,069 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:

Per 209: Siskiyou (\$44,566,566); Blue 2 (\$21,725,190); Combined (\$66,291,756)

Firefighters Assigned at Peak:

1,522 on 8/3

Structures Destroyed: 0

Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 1 (grader operator injured on 9/5 succumbed to injuries on 9/11)

Fuels: Timber, brush

Cause: Lightning

The **Siskiyou Complex Fires** are started by lightning on June 21 around 2:00AM. Located 20 miles southwest from Happy Camp, the Siskiyou Complex, doesn't immediately threaten structures or private land. The five fires that are initially included in the complex, Mill, Dark, Three, Jackass Too, and Headwater are located in very rugged, steep terrain with few roads and contain stands of large trees.

By June 26 the Siskiyou Complex is estimated at 5,000 acres and 12% contained. The Mill, Three, and Dark Fires merge and are then referred to as the Dark-Three Fire. Structures are threatened, and Highway 96 and Dillon Creek Campground are closed. Significant cultural and religious sites of the Karuk and Yurok tribes are at risk. The high elevation fires, the Jackass Too and Headwater fires, remain smaller than 100 acres.

By July 12, the Jackass Too fire merges with the Dark-Three fire for combined total of 32,453 acres and 16% containment. Red Flag conditions for low relative humidity, hot temperatures, and gusty winds, initiates very active fire behavior, especially in areas where the wind aligns with steep slopes. The fire jumps the south containment lines in excess of 1,000 acres and direct line construction is initiated. Firefighters prepare indirect contingency lines for firing operations along Lonesome Ridge Road west to Blue Creek,

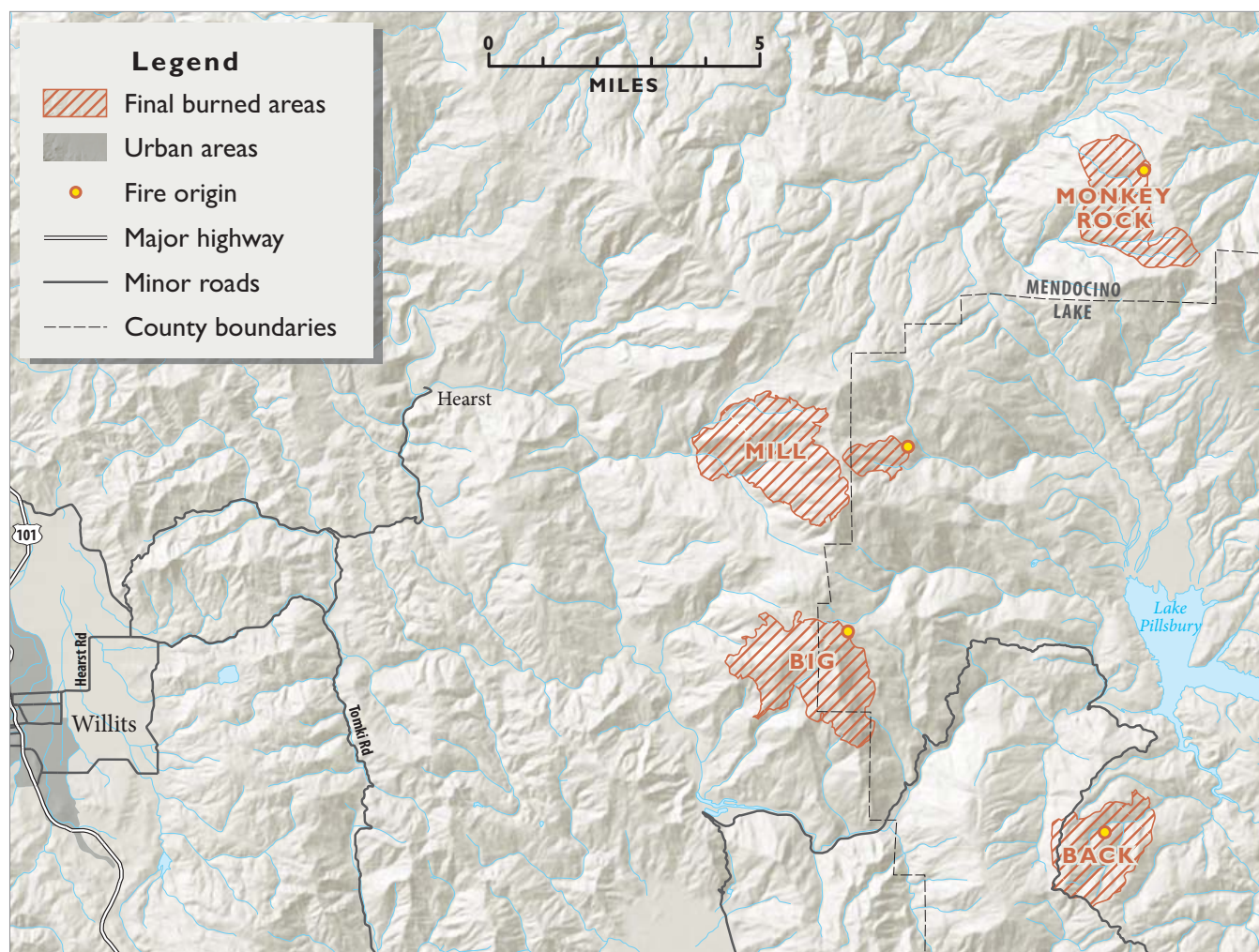
which has the potential to expand the fire to the projected 88,150 acres. The Headwaters fire is 231 acres and 0% contained. It is converted from a fire managed for resource benefit to a suppression fire.

By July 23 the Siskiyou Complex, is 54,559 acres with 36% contained. Very little fire growth is observed as established containment lines continue to hold. Firefighters complete firing operations near the Klamath River and prepared for firing operations from No Name Creek south towards containment lines along Bean Ridge. Firefighters continue to build contingency line along the southern edge of the complex toward the Blue 2 Fire.

August 13 the Siskiyou and the Blue 2 Complexes are being managed under a single containment strategy and the combined acres for the Siskiyou and Blue 2 fires are estimated at 72,571 acres and 72% contained.

On September 11 Curtis Hillman a road grader operator injured on August 25 succumbed to his injuries.

Soda Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 4

Major fires: (name, date, acres)

- Big Fire 7/5 2,193
- Back Fire 6/29 1,567
- Monkey Rock 7/14 1,829
- Mill Fire 7/26 3,034

County: Lake, & Mendocino

Affected Communities: Upper

Lake, Potter Valley Rd, Lake

Pillsbury

Agencies in Command: USFS;
Unified Command w/ CAL FIRE
on 7/15

Teams Assigned: T-2 team
(Heinz); T-2 Team #3 (Fiorella);
CAL FIRE Team (Bradley)

Start Report Date:

6/21/08 at 1255 hrs.

Containment Date: 7/26/08

Total Acres: 8,652 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:
\$17,538,075 per final 209

Firefighters Assigned at Peak:
890 on 7/22

Structures Destroyed: 4 – 2

residential & 2 outbuildings;

Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 0

Fuels: brush, oak woodland, grass
& timber

Cause: lightning

The Soda Complex originally includes the Mill Fire and Monkey Rock fires (CA-MNF-000645) that were started by lightning on June 21. On June 25, Northern Rockies IMT is assigned to the Soda Complex and the Big and Back Fires are incorporated. The Mill Fire enters the Sanhedrin wilderness on July 1. The Monkey Rock Fire that is burning completely within the Yuki Wilderness, is not staffed, but is monitored by air.

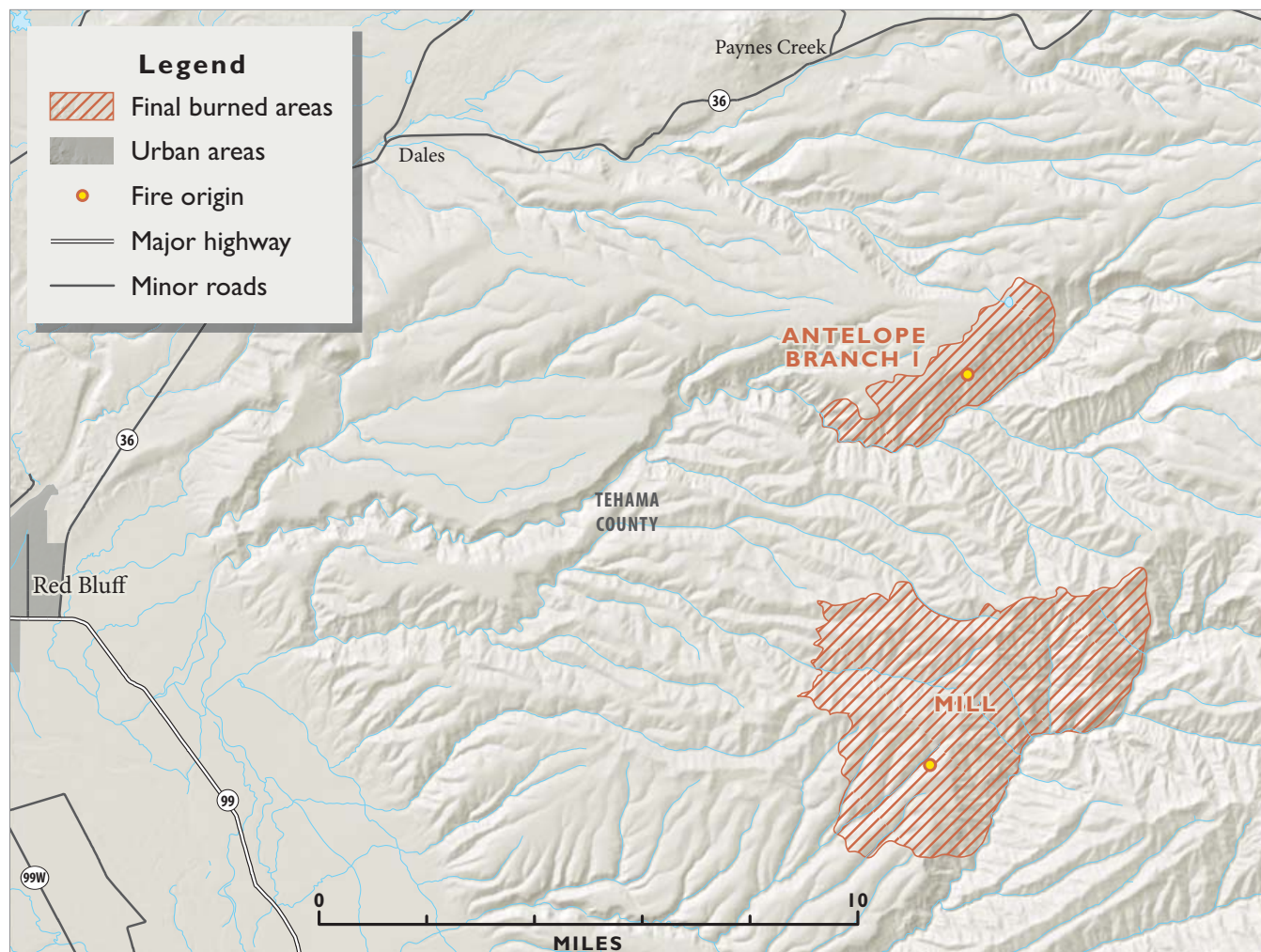
July 11, the fire fighters are forced to disengaged from the Mill Fire due to conflicts with individuals not related to the fire suppression efforts. Conflicts continue and by July 13, armed and uniformed law enforcement officers are needed to mitigate threats against fire crews and provide for safety on the fireline due to illegal agriculture in the fire area.

On July 14, Unified Command is established for the Mill fire. Air resources from the MEU complex assist with containment of a slop over. Unified Command with USFS and CAL FIRE is established on July 15 and remains in effect until July 25.

There are 7 injuries reported on the Soda Complex. On June 26, a contract crew member burns the palm of their hand during suppression of the Back Fire. On the evening of June 27 a crew member's eye was injured. On June 28, a vender's delivery vehicle had an accident and the driver received medical attention. On July 9, a crewmember sprained their back and received a doctor recommendation for 4 days of light duty. Injuries were also reported on July 16, July 18, July 19 but were not described.

The primary values at risk in the Soda Complex were 7 structures adjacent to the Mill Fire, various heritage sites, spotted owl activity centers and wilderness values. The Soda Complex is fully contained on July 26 at 8,652 acres.

Tehama-Glenn Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 39

Major Fires:

- Antelope
- Mill
- Noble

County: Tehama

Affected Communities: Platina

Agencies in Command: CAL
FIRE

Teams assigned: CAL FIRE's
Tehama-Glenn Unit (TGU)

Start Report Date:

6/21/2008

Containment Date:

Total Acres: 22,907 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:

\$2,159,923

Firefighters Assigned at Peak:

Structures Destroyed: 5

Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 0

Fuels: Grass, brush, and timber

Cause: Lightning

By the time thunderstorms spread into the Tehama-Glenn Unit on the afternoon of June 21st, the unit has already committed a portion of its suppression resources to fires in other units. The unit copes with 34 new fires that morning and afternoon with a skeleton force of 8 state fire engines, 2 Schedule A engines, one state and two private bulldozers, three hand crews (out of 17 total normally available) and one state helicopter.

The unit lightning plan is activated, the ECC staffing is expanded, and all resources are committed to the lightning fires. An “all call” is placed to Tehama County Fire Department for all volunteer firefighters to cover their equipment. The department staffs 16 of its 19 total Type 2 and Type 3 fire engines, and 7 of its 9 water tenders for the duration of the complex. These units are assigned to the lightning fires or cover empty CAL FIRE stations for initial attack on new fires.

Immediately upon completion of their training, the unit’s firefighter academy class is formed into a hand crew, as most of the engines that they normally staff are out of the unit. Additional resources are provided by Sierra Pacific Industries, the major industrial timberland owner in the county.

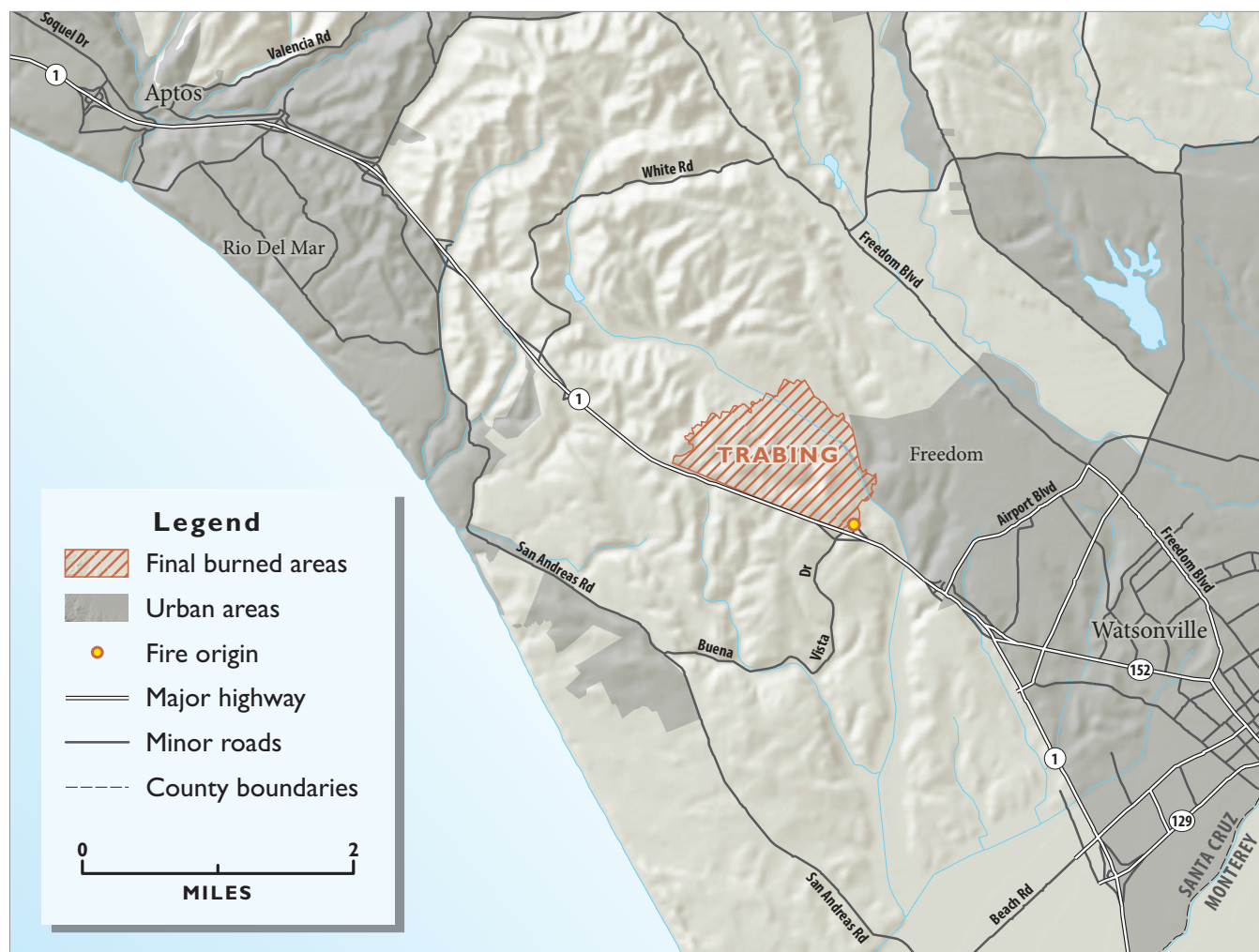
Because additional agency suppression resources are scarce and the two big fires are not threatening populated areas, the available forces are split into two 12+ hour shifts and assigned to “bump and run” or hot spotting tactics on the smaller fires. Firefighters successfully contain all but the two largest of the fires by June 24th.

The Mill Fire and the Antelope Fire are contained by June 30th, with indirect tactics including the construction, burning out and holding of seven miles of fireline from Antelope Creek to Highway 36 using a total force of two private bulldozers and the one firefighter hand crew. Four other bulldozers cut line around the other side of the fire and it was contained at 3,400 acres.

One of the early lightning strikes knocked out the main electrical power supply to the Emergency Command Center. Although the back-up generator came on and ran, a damaged circuit breaker remained open, causing the entire telecommunications system to run on only the battery back-up. As the power drained from the UPS batteries, the ECC began to experience the loss of its computer systems, one after the other. Then the telephone system failed. Cell phones were activated as a temporary measure. Then the radio console failed and the dispatchers had to resort to hand-held radios and a vehicle parked outside the window. The final blow came when the computer-aid dispatch system failed. It took an hour to diagnose and correct the electrical failure.

The unit made multiple major commitments of resources, especially fire engines for structure protection, to the Noble Fire burning in the Shasta-Trinity National Forest near Platina over a period of about two weeks. The TGU Complex was contained on July 4, 2008 at 22,907 acres.

Trabing Fire



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 1
 Major fires: NA
 County: Santa Cruz
 Affected Communities:
 Watsonville, Aptos, and Corralitos

Agencies in Command: CAL FIRE
 Teams assigned: CAL FIRE
 Start Report Date: 6/20/2008
 at 1:58 PM
 Containment Date: 6/22/2008
 Total Acres: 630 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:
 Unknown
 Firefighters Assigned at Peak:
 645
 Structures Destroyed: 75 (26
 residential and 49 outbuildings)

Structures Damaged: 12
 Fatalities: 0
 Fuels: Eucalyptus, grass and brush
 Cause: Under investigation

The Trabing Fire is reported at 1:58 PM on June 20th, just north of Watsonville along Hwy 1. Hot particles from a vehicle exhaust cause five starts along Hwy 1 over a $\frac{3}{4}$ mile stretch just north of the Buena Vista Rd. exit. These fires moved rapidly into a large eucalyptus grove, merge, and consume 630 acres before being contained on June 22nd.

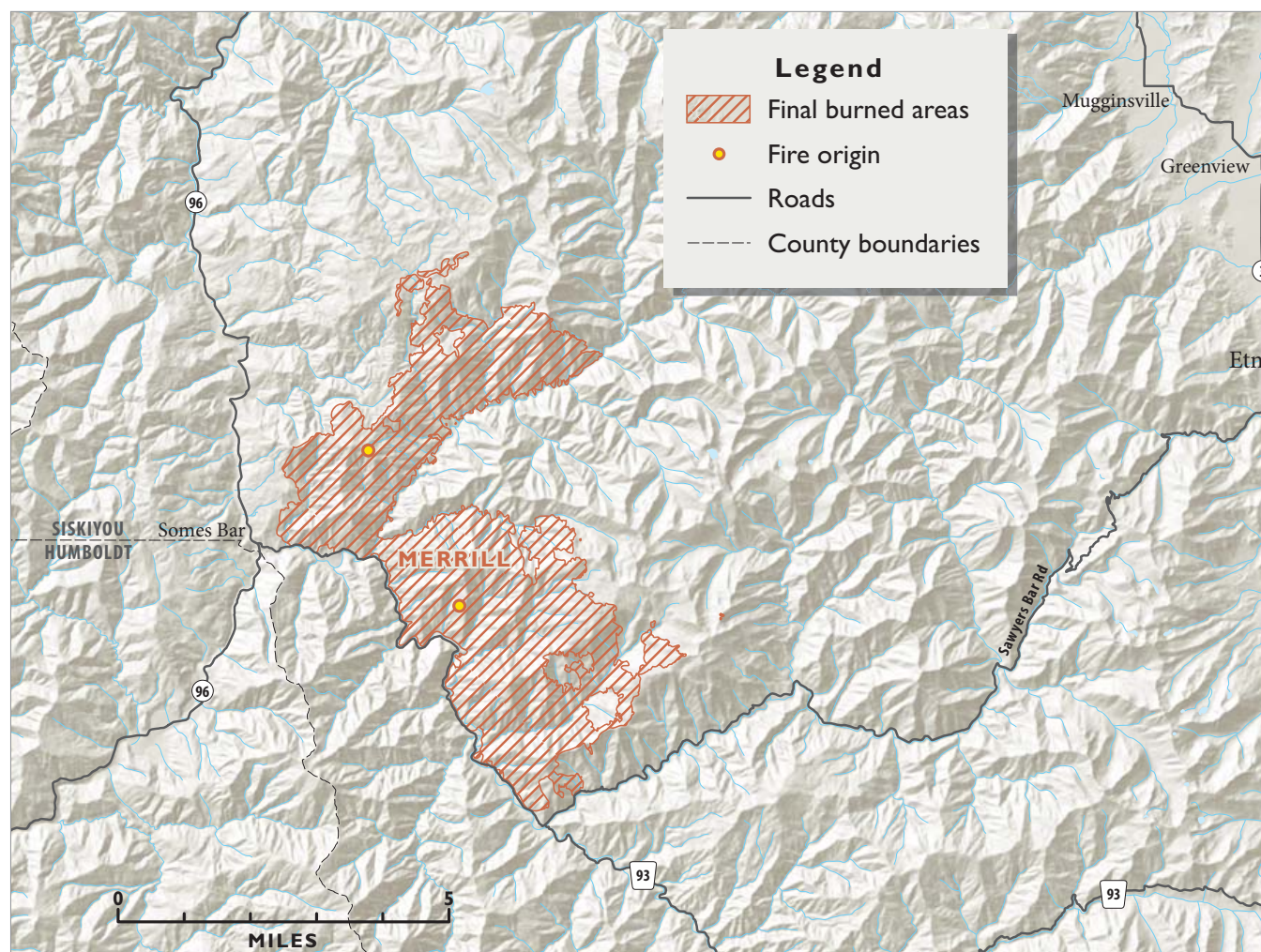
The weather is unseasonably hot and dry with the relative humidity in the low teens. The marine layer is absent. At the fire's peak 90 engines, 12 handcrews, 4 bulldozers, 9 water tenders, 6 air tankers, 4 helicopters, and 20 overhead are assigned.

During the fire an estimated 2,000 people are evacuated, along with 220 horses and livestock and 50 small domestic animals. The Trabing Fire destroys 26

residential structures, 49 outbuildings, and 44 vehicles. Twelve other residences were damaged and 89 others were seriously threatened. When the Trabing fire starts the local Unit still has resources assigned to the Summit and Martin Fires.

During mop-up of the Trabing Fire on June 21st command staff on the incident is advised of a lightning storm approaching off the Pacific Ocean with Lightning Activity Levels of 5-6. Around 1 PM, storm cells crossed the incident, resulting in two $\frac{1}{4}$ acre lightning fires within one mile of the Trabing Incident. A water spout was observed near the Santa Cruz pier. The June 2008 siege was beginning.

Ukonom Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 9

Major fires:

- Jake
- Merrill: Mountain and Haypress fires combined on 6/26 now called Merrill
- Mountain
- Haypress
- Blue Fire: 6/25 through 7/6; 981 acres and 10% contained when went to CA-SRF-001224

• Crappo Fire: 7/20, 20 acres
County: Initially reported as Humboldt; beginning 7/1 reported as Siskiyou
Affected Communities: Orleans, Somes Bar, Oak Bottom, Camp 3 Rd., Salmon River, Forks of Salmon, and Pollacks Subdivision
Agencies in Command: USFS
Teams assigned USFS – T-2 (Lund); ORCA T-2 (Paul); CIIMT 5, (Dietrick); Alaska T-1

(Wilcocks); FUMT (Beckman); NIMO, (Gage under Klamath Theatre).
Start Report Date: 6/20/2008 at 12:00 AM
Containment Date: 11/5/2008
Total Acres: 58,871 acres (per 11/5/2008 final 209; includes North Ukonom acreage)
Direct Fire Suppression Costs: \$25,757,622 (Per final Klamath Theater 209).

Firefighters Assigned at Peak: 727 on 7/20
Structures Destroyed: 0
Structures Damaged: 0
Fatalities: 0
Fuels: Timber, logging slash, brush, snow damage and wind throw
Cause: Lightning

The Ukonom Complex starts during the June 20th storm in the Somes Bar area of the Six Rivers National Forest as 9 lightning fires. Six fires remain active in steep terrain and heavy fuel threatening structures, important cultural resources, and local fisheries.

By June 26th, several fires have merged and the Ukonom Complex consists of three fires: Jake Fire (combination of Portuguese and Jake fires), Merrill Fire (combination of the Mountain, Haypress, and Merrill fires), and the Blue Fire. The complex is reported at 4,100 acres and 3% contained. Fiefighting resources concentrate on the Blue Fire. An archeologist assists the Heritage Resource Advisor in identifying important cultural resources for protection.

On July 1st the Ukonom complex, at 6,358 acres and 5% contained, poses several social, economic, and cultural risks. The fires are threatening important Native American cultural and spiritual areas including the only know fully intact Karuk spiritual site. The fires also threaten historic structures including the Wooley Creek cabins (used by President Hoover), Forest Service recreation and administrative sites at Oak Bottom, anadromous fisheries and spawning grounds along Wooley Creek and the Salmon River, and the Marble Mountain wilderness. Fire managers anticipate increased public exposure due to the opening of gold dredging on the Salmon River. A new fire in the area, the Crapo Fire, has still not been located. On July 6, IMT 2 (Svalberg) takes over the Blue Fire, now called Blue 2.

Red Flag Warnings for hot, dry conditions combined with strong down canyon winds to increase fire spread are issued for July 8th,. The Merrill and Jake fires are expected to merge at the confluence of the Salmon River and Wooley Creek. There is heightened concern on behalf of residents in Salmon River drainage as fire moves down to the river with a 6 mile wide front.

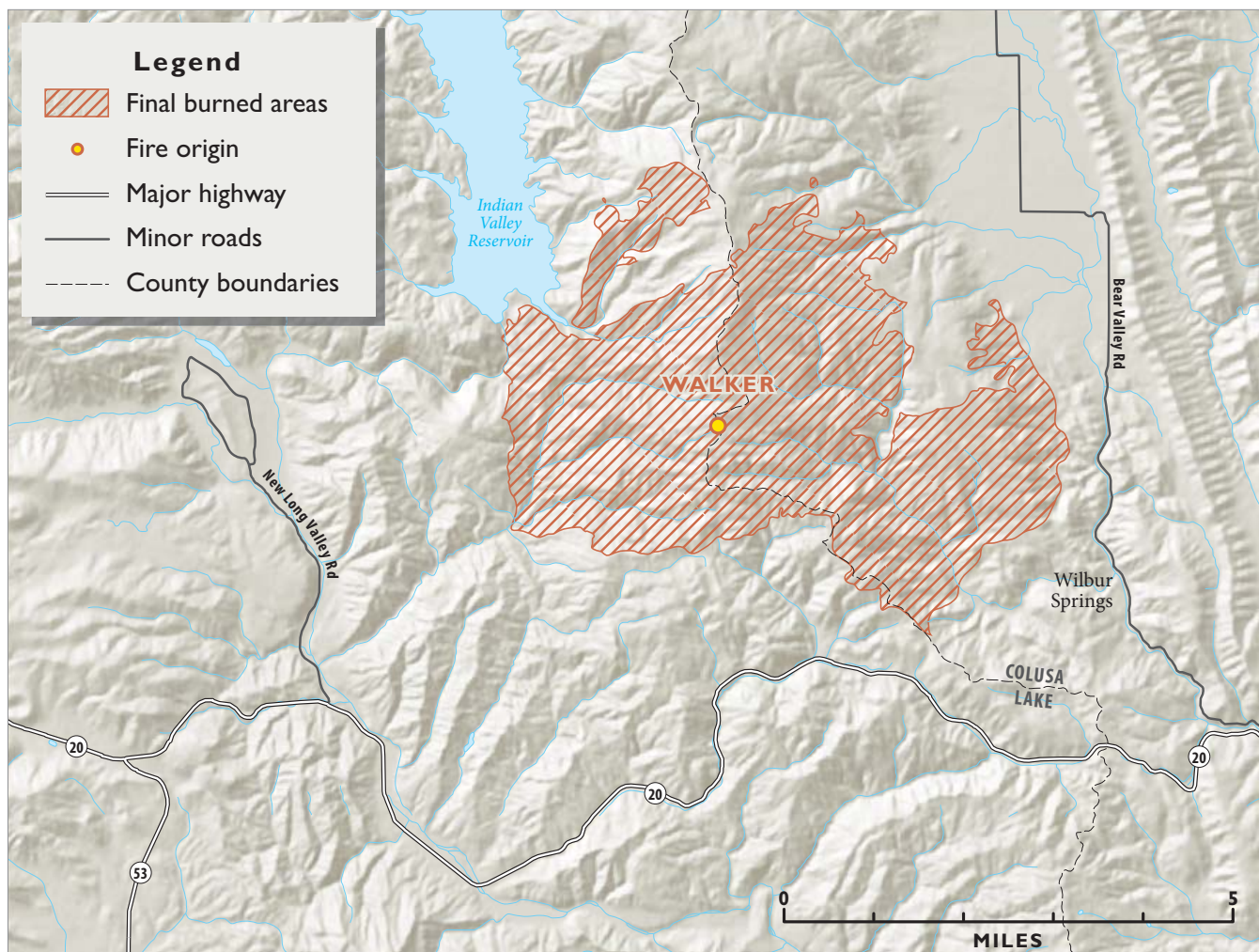
A new incident management team assumes command of the Blue Fire within the Ukonom Complex. The name of the fire changes to the Blue 2 Fire. This 1,090 acre fire is located in a remote area 15 miles southeast of Gasquet and is 8% contained. Several forest roads and trails are closed for public safety. July 11, IMT T-2 (Paul) assumes command.

By July 14th, the Merrill and Jake fires have merged with 22,000 acres burned and 22% containment. Very dry fuel and extreme temperatures continue to increase fire spread into critical areas toward the Bear Wallow Complex. The two complexes are separated by only 6 miles. Coordination and sharing of resources occurs among the Bear Wallow, Blue 2, Siskiyou, and Ukonom complexes.

On July 26th the Ukonom Complex is threatening 45 residences and 58 outbuildings prompting a voluntary evacuation of the Forks of the Salmon and Pollacks subdivisions. Also at risk are the Forest Service compound at Oak Bottom, the main telecommunication radio facility for the area, Native American cultural and religious sites, Wild and Scenic Rivers corridor, old growth timber, and anadromous fisheries habitat.

On August 1 a sunrise memorial service honoring Chief Daniel Packer is held at the Ukonom Complex Incident Command Post in Orleans. By August 6th the Ukonom Complex has burned 47, 728 acres and is 81% contained. The fire line construction is complete and burnout operations are continuing to firm up the line. On August 16th the northern portion of the Ukonom Fire (north of Wooley Creek) is transferred to the Panther Fire. The portion of the fire south of Wooley Creek is referred to as Ukonom-South. The Ukonom-South was 100% contained on 11/5/2008.

Walker Fire



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 1

County: Lake

Affected Communities: Double
Eagle Ranch subdivision, Wilbur
Hot Spring Resort

Agencies in Command: CAL FIRE

Teams assigned CAL FIRE's
Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit (LNU)

Start Report Date:
6/22/2008 at 4:20 PM

Containment Date: 6/28/08

Total Acres:

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:
\$3,617,769

Firefighters Assigned at Peak:
Structures Destroyed: 0
Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 0

Fuels: Grass, brush, and
woodland

Cause:

The **Walker Fire** is reported on the afternoon of 6/22/2008, and when Copter-104 arrives a few minutes later is already about 500 acres with a rapid rate of spread and long-range spotting in heavy brush. Initial resources try to cut off the fire by burning out along Walker Ridge Road, but the fire jumps the road at about 6:30 PM and heads toward Bear Valley Road. Air tankers are released early at about 7 PM due to ineffectiveness and the inability of ground crews to follow up the retardant drops in the heavy brush. By nightfall, the fire is well over 2,000 acres.

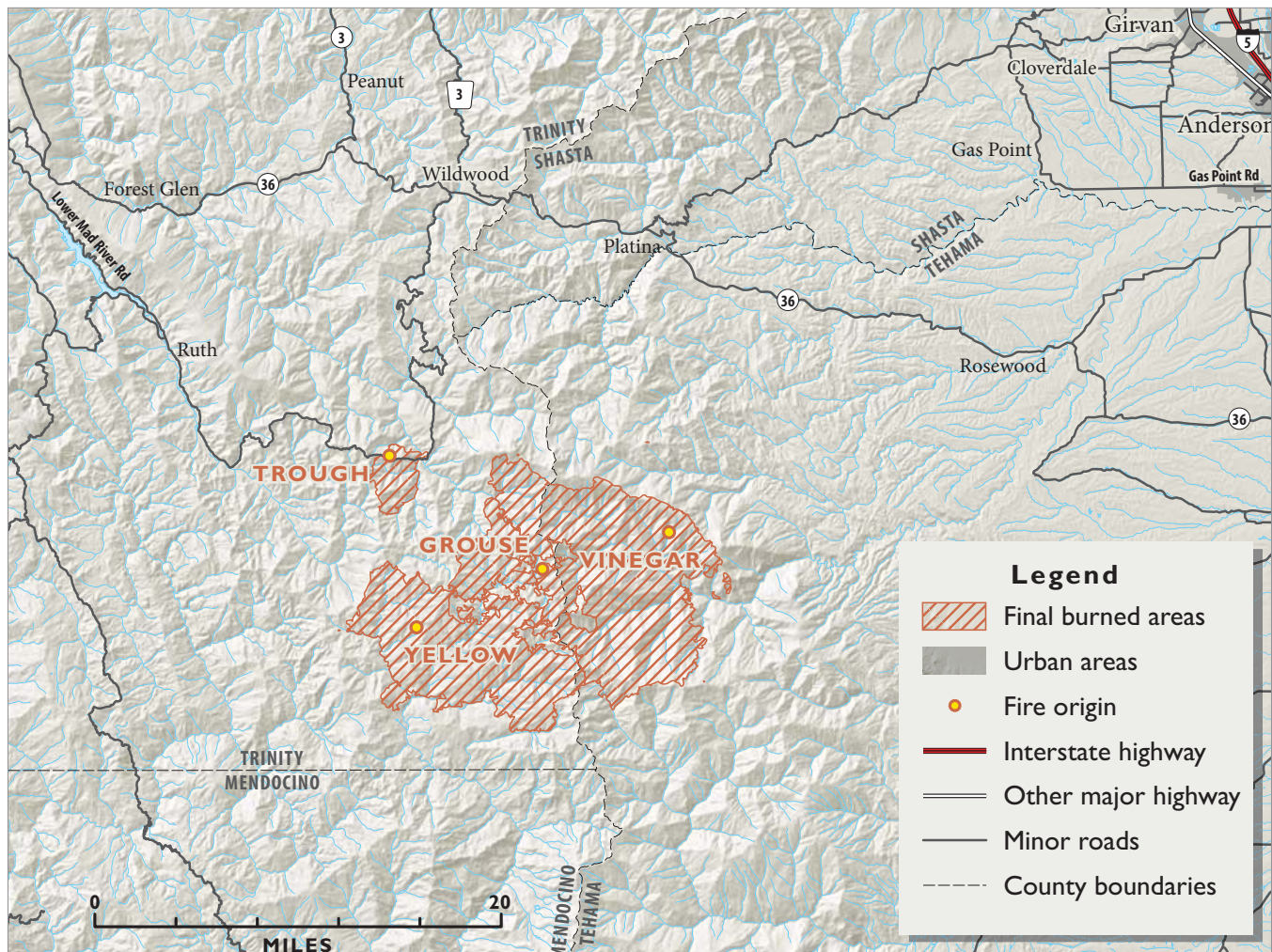
The Walker Fire threatens a subdivision, scattered residences, the Wilbur Hot Springs Resort, numerous mountaintop communications towers, high-capacity electric transmission lines, and the control facilities for the dam at Indian Valley Reservoir. Numerous environmentally sensitive areas are also threatened. The fire burns primarily on BLM lands, some of which are under lease for a wind power development project.

By the next morning the fire reaches about 8,000 acres, with limited resources available. Line construction efforts are limited to burning out along existing roads. The weather continues to be hot and dry, with a southwest wind.

CAL FIRE's Incident Command Team 3 takes over the fire on Wednesday morning, redeploying from the Wild Fire to the south. On Thursday, additional fire engines and bulldozers arrive, and firefighters are successful in keeping the fire north of Highway 20. On Friday, the wind shifts from the northeast, aiding the firefighters building direct line on the north side of the fire. Evacuation orders are lifted for the Double Eagle Subdivision and the Wilbur Hot Spring Resort. By Friday night, the situation allows for only a small contingent of engines to patrol the perimeter, as the other resources are finally able to get some rest.

At its peak, the Walker Fire has 66 fire engines, 27 bulldozers, 19 hand crews, 17 water tenders, 8 helicopters, and four fixed-wing aircraft assigned. The fire is contained on 6/28/2008.

Yolla Bolly Complex



STATISTICS

Complex Fire # CA-MNF-000663

Number of Fires: Appears to be 24 at peak number varied between 22, 23, & 24 as fires merged or found to be separate fires or as new fires were found

Major fires: (name, date, acres)

• Camp	7/1	201
• Yellow	8/20	32,250
• Grouse	8/20	6,246
• Vinegar	8/20	47,802

(Includes Frying Pan and Sulphur Fires). On 7/14 Iron, Wilderness

- & Harvey fires from Lime complex merged with Vinegar
- Jacket - combined with Yellow
- Harvey Ridge: Merged with Wilderness #2 from Lime complex while under Lime Complex Command
- Thomes: merged with Vinegar Slides- 1547 ac, unknown containment date but merged with Vinegar fire
- Trough: final containment on 7/21 at 3696 ac while under Lime Complex

County: Mendocino, Tehama & Trinity

Affected Communities: Unknown, 209 doesn't refer to community's but states multiple structures threatened SE of Slides fire. Mentions inholding at Henhorn Lake
Agencies in Command: USFS; T-2 IMT (Harvey); T-I IMT (Wilcocks); Northern Rockies IMT T-1 (Larsen); Rocky Mtn IMT T-2 (Blume); Eastern Great Basin Team T-3 (Lund)

Start Report Date:

6/21/08 at 0600 hrs.

Containment Date:

8/19/08 1830 hrs 100%

Total Acres: 89,994 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:

Per 209: \$16,100,000 8/20/08

Firefighter Assigned at Peak:

570 on 7/11/08

Structures Destroyed/Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 0

Fuels: brush, oak woodland, grass & timber

Cause: Lightning

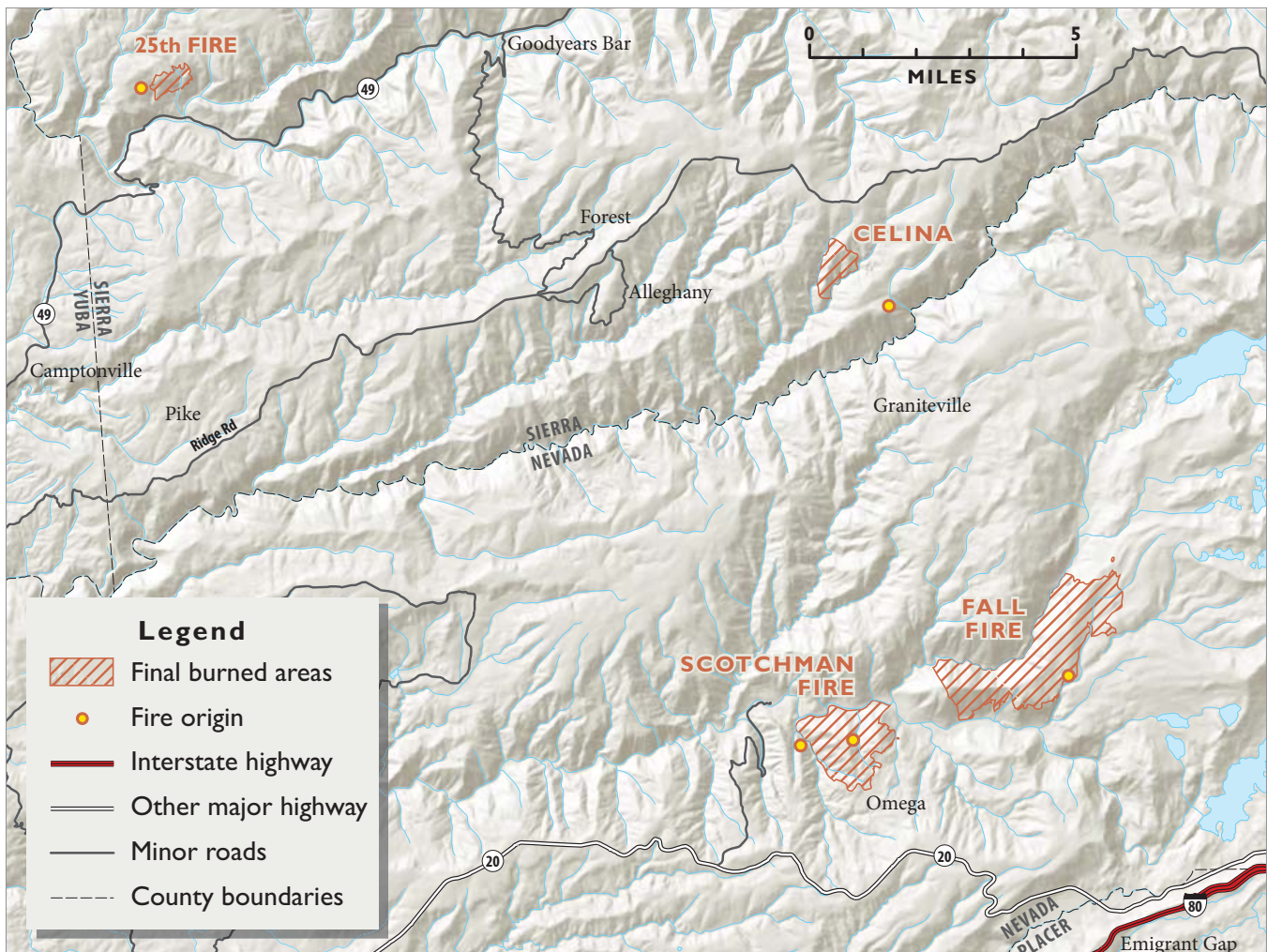
The Yolla Bolly Complex starts during the lightning storm on June 21. Initially called the MNF ABCD June Lightning Complex, the Yolla Bolly Complex is managed as part of the Lime Complex from July 11 through July 24. On July 25 at the Lime Complex and Yolla Bolly Complexes are separated and the Yolla Bolly Complex includes the Yellow, Vinegar, Trough and Grouse Fires. The jurisdictions within the Yolla Bolly Complex included the Mendocino NF, Shasta-Trinity NF, Six Rivers NF, California state lands, private inholdings, and the Bureau of Land Management. Much of the complex burned in or near wilderness, requiring an operation with numerous spike camps.

The steep and inaccessible terrain with limited safety zones require, most operational resources to be worked out of remote spike camps and communications with ICP are a challenge.

The Martin Mars is used for water drops and this complex also received assistance from the National Guard.

Values at risk included spotted Owl habitat, steelhead trout/salmon fisheries, sensitive plant species, cultural sites, and wilderness values.

Yuba River Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 13

Major fires: (name, date, acres)

• Scotchman	7/3	1,230
• Fall	7/15	2,420
• Celina	7/2	397
• 25 Fire	6/26	189

(Clear Fire and Fall Fire burned together; called the Fall Fire)

County: Yuba, Nevada, Sierra

Affected Communities:

Washington, Fuller Lake, Bowman, Cal Ida, Graniteville, and Rucker

Agencies in Command: USFS

Teams assigned USFS, Tahoe National Forest (TNF)

Start Report Date:

6/21/2008 at 2:00 PM

Containment Date: 7/15/2008

Total Acres: 4,254 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:

\$7,500,000 per 209

Firefighters Assigned at Peak: 772

Structures Destroyed/Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 0

Fuels: Timber, and brush

Cause: Lightning

The Yuba River Complex starts as a series of fires ignited by the June 21 lightning storm 15 miles northeast of Nevada City, in Sierra County. The complex includes the 25, Omega I, Omega II, Scotchman, Fall, Celina, Gaston, Clear and Deer Fires, plus four fires that are contained at 3 acres or less.

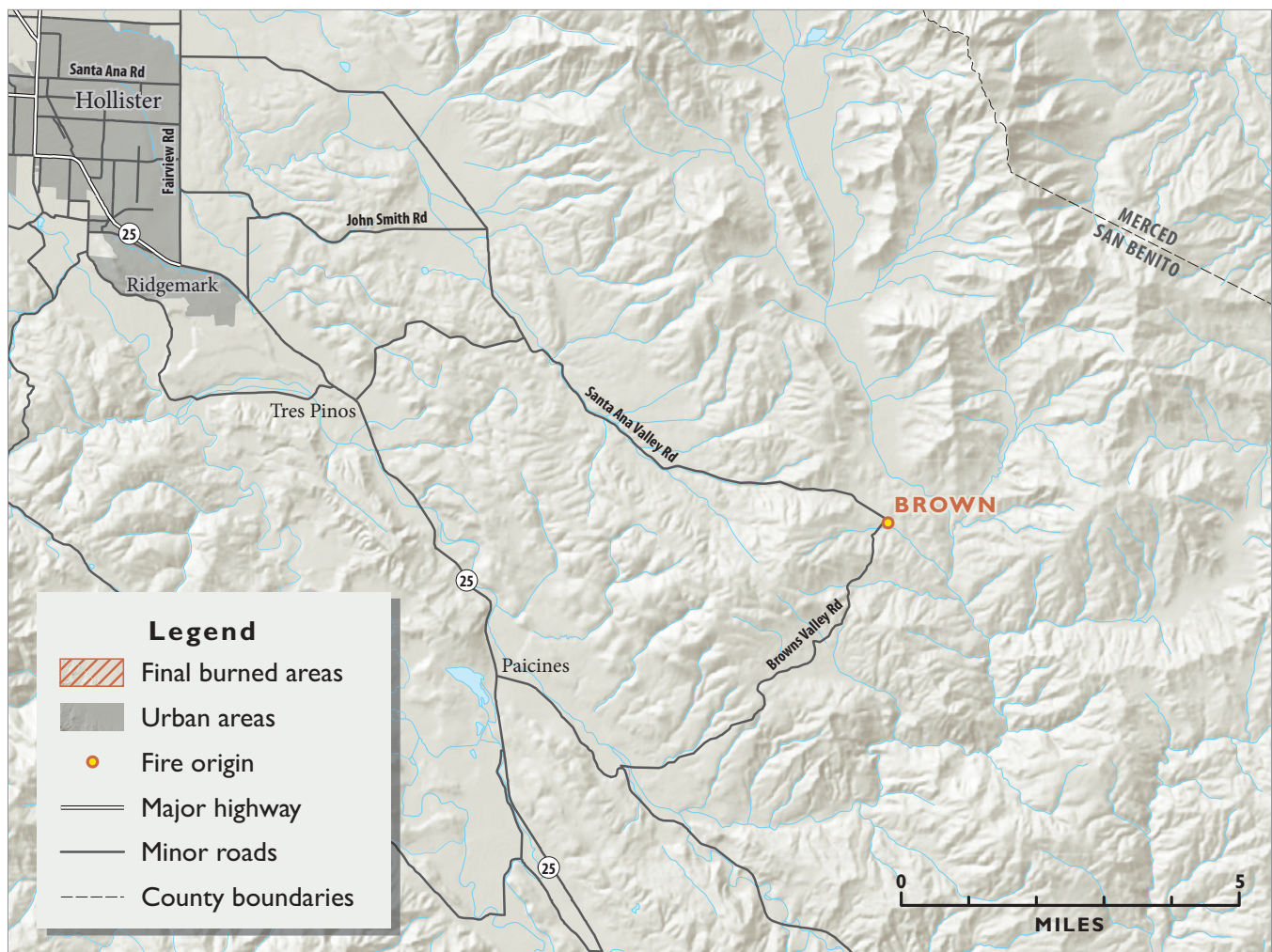
Within 24 hours the Yuba River Complex is reported at 590 acres with extremely active fire behavior. Summer home tracts and residences are evacuated in the Fall Fire and Scotchman Fire area. The communities of Fuller Lake, Bowman, Cal Ida, Graniteville and Rucker as well as power infrastructure (PG and E) and Nevada Irrigation District (NID) property are threatened. Contingency plans are developed to evacuate the town of Washington. Road closures include Bowman Rd from Hwy 20 and FS25 Rd to Cal Ida from Hwy 49. On June 27 there is a Red Flag warning for dry lightning.

June 28 the Yuba River Complex is estimated at 3,169 acres and 57% containment. Firefighters have already

contained nine of the fires. The Scotchman and Fall Fires are spreading into areas that could allow them to become “summer long campaign fires” burning thousands of acres of prime public and private forest lands, and damaging miles of critical habitat and watershed.

By July 1, at 3,579 acres and 61% contained, the smoke from this complex continues posing a public health hazard to local communities. High-use camping and recreational areas are closed through the 4th of July weekend, impacting the local tourist-based economy. The Fall Fire reaches the Canyon Creek area threatening historic sites, homes, and active mining operations. Weight limits on the bridge prevent access to fire engines. Crews hike in and establish hose lays with portable pumps to protect these sites. Helicopters slow fire spread and minimize fire growth. On July 5 the Yuba River complex, at 3813 acres and 95% contained, is transitioned back to the local unit.

Brown Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 3

Major Fires: 1

County: San Benito

Affected Communities: Panoche and Antelope

Agencies in Command: CAL FIRE's San Benito-Monterey Unit

Start Report Date: 6/21/2008

Containment Date: 6/23/2008

Total Acres: 3,350 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:

\$150,000

Firefighters Assigned at Peak: 80

Structures Destroyed: 0

Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 0

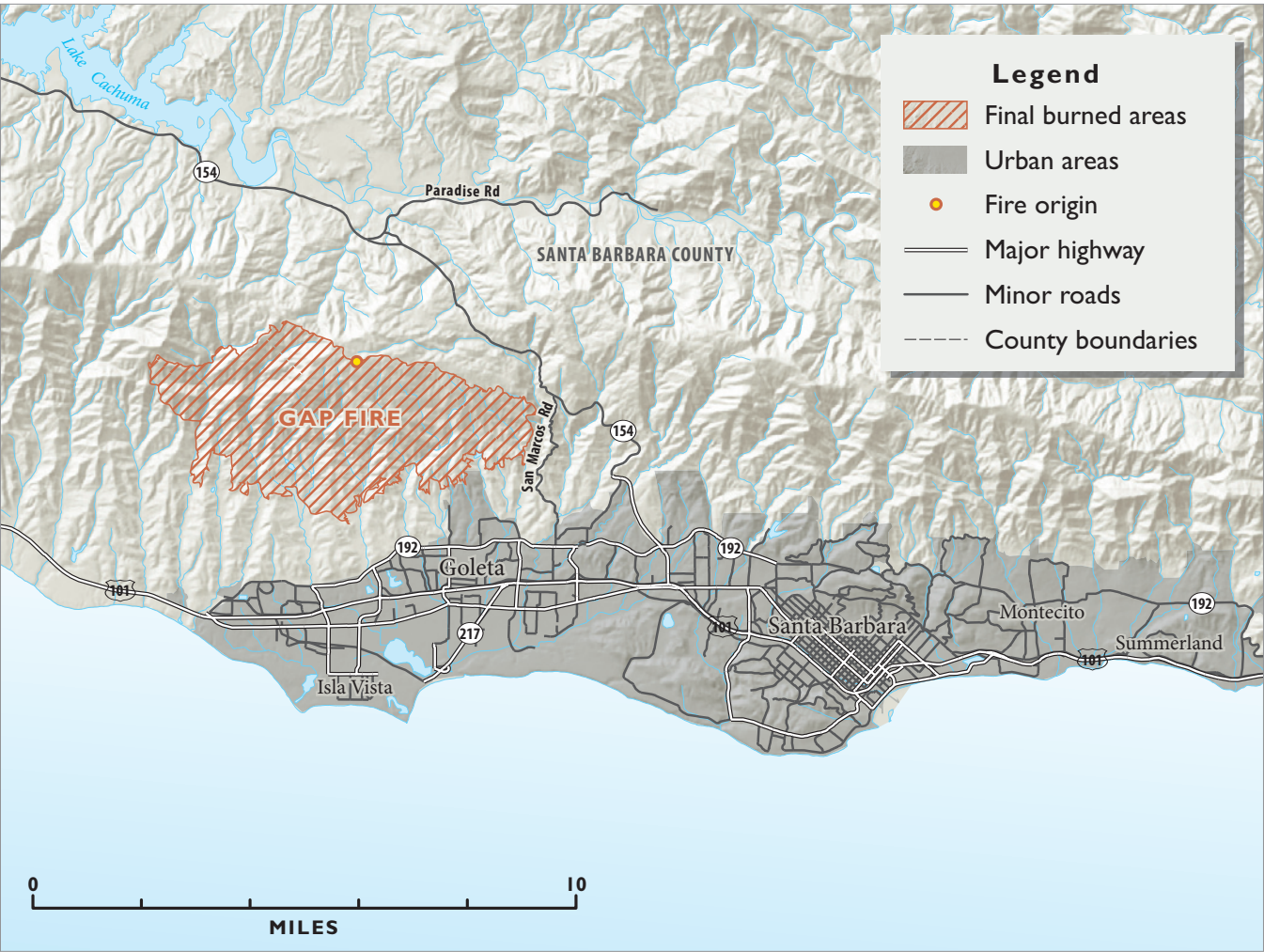
Fuels: Grass and brush

Cause: Lightning

Lightning starts three fires in southeastern San Benito County on June 21st, 2008 around 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The first fire was about a hundred acres of grass, the second fire was about 250 acres of grass, and the largest was about 3,000 acres of mixed grass and brush. At the time very few resources were available due to the large number of new fires.

Initial attack forces remained engaged on these fires through containment without reinforcements, as these fires burned in remote, sparsely populated areas with minimal threat to life and property.

Gap Fire

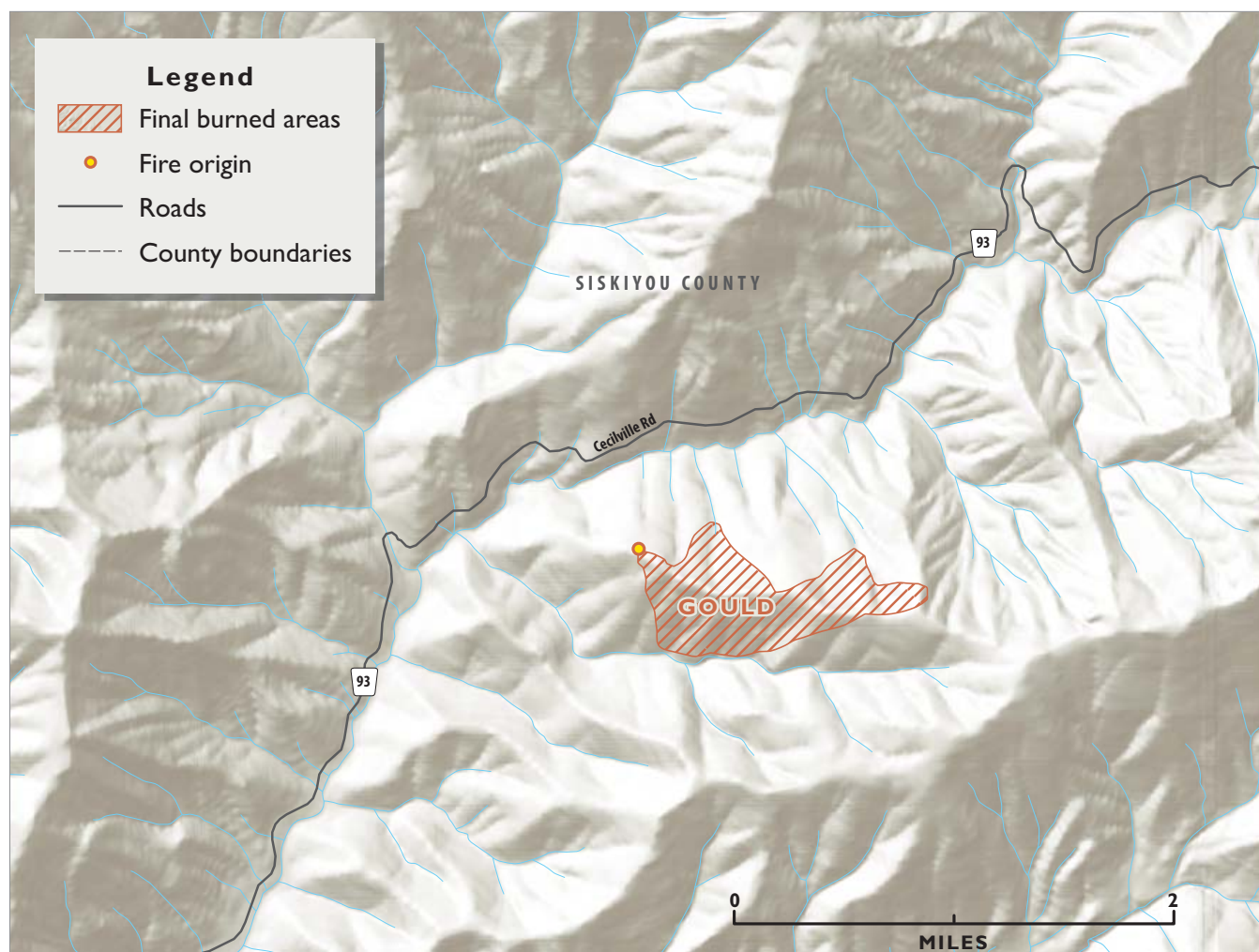


STATISTICS	Agencies in Command: USFS, Santa Barbara County Fire Department	County: Santa Barbara	Direct Fire Suppression Costs:
Number of Fires: 1		Start Report Date: 7/01/2008	\$20,970,000
Major fires: Gap Fire		Containment Date: 7/28/2008	Firefighters Assigned at Peak:
Affected Communities:	Teams assigned: Los Padres	Total Acres: 9,443 acres	1,387
Santa Barbara, and Goleta	National Forest (LPF)	Fuels: Heavy brush	Structures Destroyed: 4

The Gap Fire burns on steep slopes above the cities of Santa Barbara and Goleta. Dense fifty-year old brush and extremely difficult terrain prove to be significant challenges to firefighting personnel. During the initial operational periods the fire is driven downhill by Sundowner winds and burns to the edges of Goleta and Santa Barbara. It is necessary to mobilize multiple

strike teams of Type 1 engines to provide sufficient resources for structure protection; this is done with the assistance of OES working within the Master Mutual Aid System. After two days the winds subside and fire fighters began to work the mountainous terrain and fully contain the fire.

Gould Fire



STATISTICS

Complex Fire # CA-KNF-002970

Number of Fires: 1

Major named fires: Gould

FireCounty: Siskiyou

Affected Communities: none

Agencies in Command: USFS

Start Report Date: 06/21/2008

Containment Date: 6/29/2008

Total Acres: 229 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:

\$678,000

Firefighter Assigned at Peak: 74

Structures Destroyed: 0

Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 0

Fuels: mixed conifer/hardwood
with slash and brush

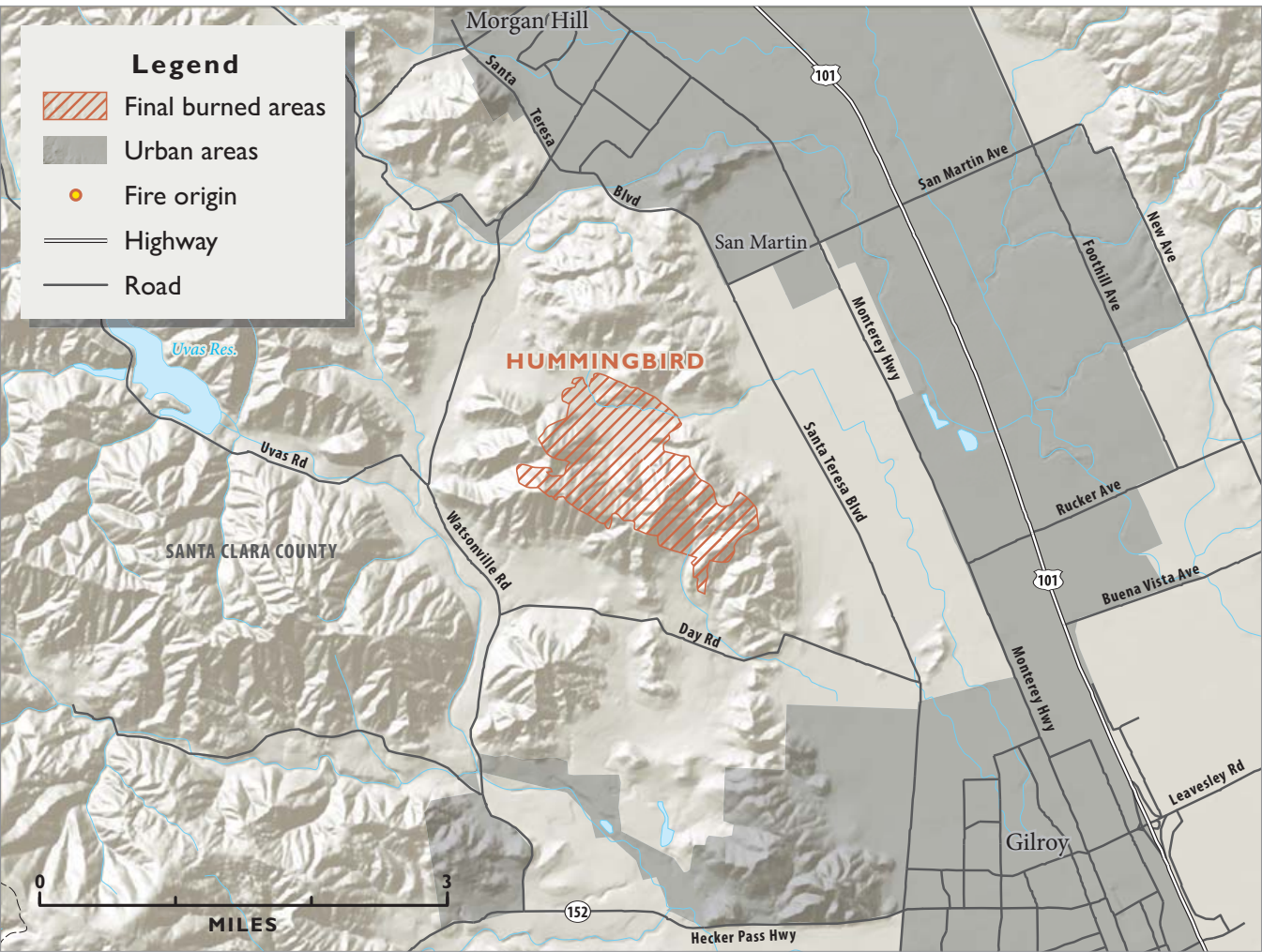
The Gould Fire is caused by a lightning strike at midnight on June 21. Located approximately 45 miles southwest of Etna in Gould Gulch, the fire burned nearly 200 acres on June 24 triggering the transition to a type three incident management team.

By June 26 crews continue to make steady progress, completing a 40-acre burnout. The Gould Fire is close

to containment, but the potential for problems due to the extremely steep terrain and potential reburn of some incompletely burned areas remains. The presence of bears and rattlesnakes is a concern.

By June 29 the Gould Fire is 100 % contained at 229 acres. The Gould Fire was declared controlled on July 2.

Hummingbird Fire



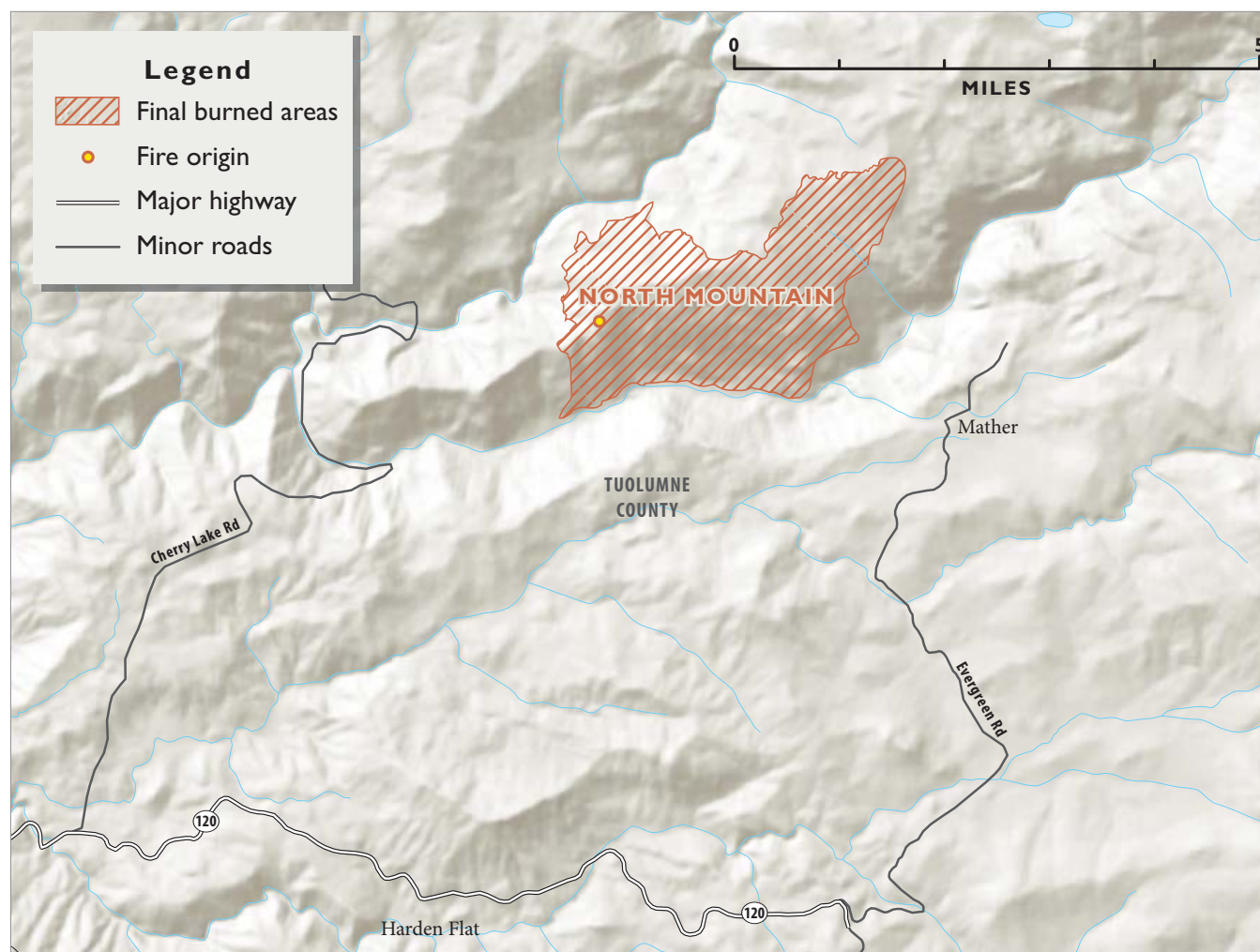
STATISTICS	Agencies in Command:	Total Acres: 794 acres	Structures Destroyed: 0
Number of Fires: 1	CAL FIRE	Direct Fire Suppression Costs:	Structures Damaged: 0
County: Santa Clara	Start Report Date:	\$213,963	Fatalities: 0
Affected Communities: Morgan Hill, San Martin, and Gilroy	6/21/2008 at 3:33 PM	Firefighters Assigned at Peak:	Fuels: grass, and oak woodland
	Containment Date: 6/23/2008	201	Cause: Lightning

The Hummingbird Fire is started by lightning on June 21 at a time when available resources are limited by other lightning fire activity. It is located southwest of the community of Morgan Hill and west of San Martin and Gilroy, and threatens approximately 1,200 residential structures, multiple ranches and farms, and livestock. Local government engines and water tenders

assist the CAL FIRE resources, providing 160 of the approximately 200 fire personnel assigned.

On June 21 evacuation orders are issued for residents in the immediate fire area. The forward progress of the fire is stopped late on June 22 and evacuation orders are lifted. Excess equipment and personnel are released. The Hummingbird Fire is declared contained at 794 acres on June 23.

North Mountain Fire



STATISTICS

Complex Fire # CA-STF-1063

Number of Fires: 1

Major fires: Tuolumne

Affected Communities: Yosemite National Park, Camp Mather and the Evergreen Lodge
Agencies in Command and Teams Assigned: Type 2

(Woychak), TeamType 3 (McMenimen)

Start Report Date: 06/21/2008 at 3:48 PM

Containment Date: 07/03/2008

Total Acres: 2,889 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs: \$6,250,000

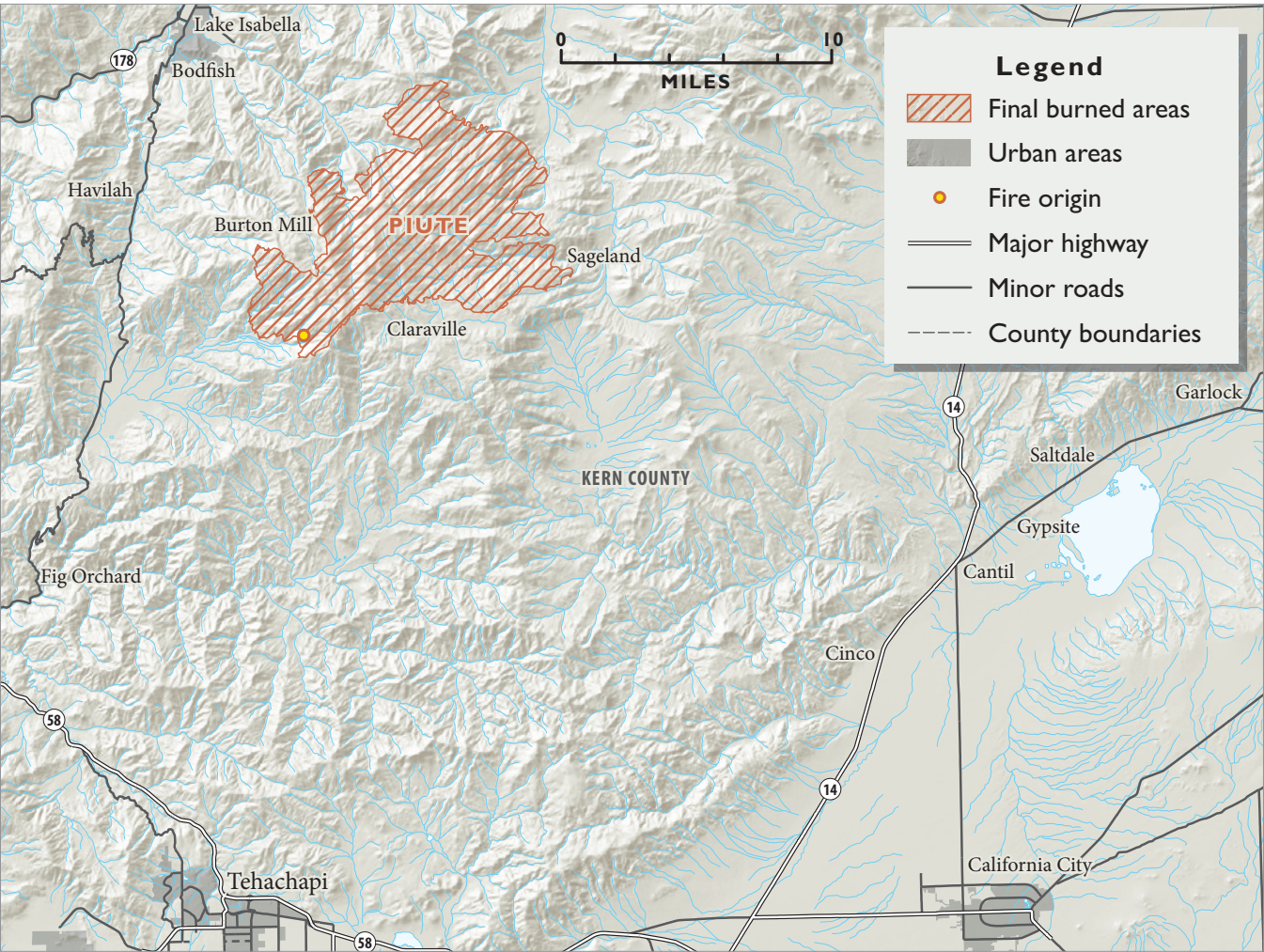
Structures Destroyed: 0

Structures Damaged: 0

The North Mountain Fire is started by lightning, on June 21 and reported at 3:48 p.m. The fire burns in heavy brush and timber in steep and inaccessible terrain, seven miles northeast of Groveland in Stanislaus County. Of critical concern is the large number of poison oak cases affecting fire fighting crews. A large scale treatment for crews is conducted at the Base Camp Medical Unit.

By June 29th, the fire is 35% contained at 2,697 acres. While the fire continues to move eastward along the Tuolumne River and into Yosemite National Park, the Incident Command Team keeps structure and evacuation contingencies in place for Camp Mather. There are large groups of children at Camp Mather that will require extended evacuation times due to limited access, narrow roads, and a shortage of buses.

Piute Fire

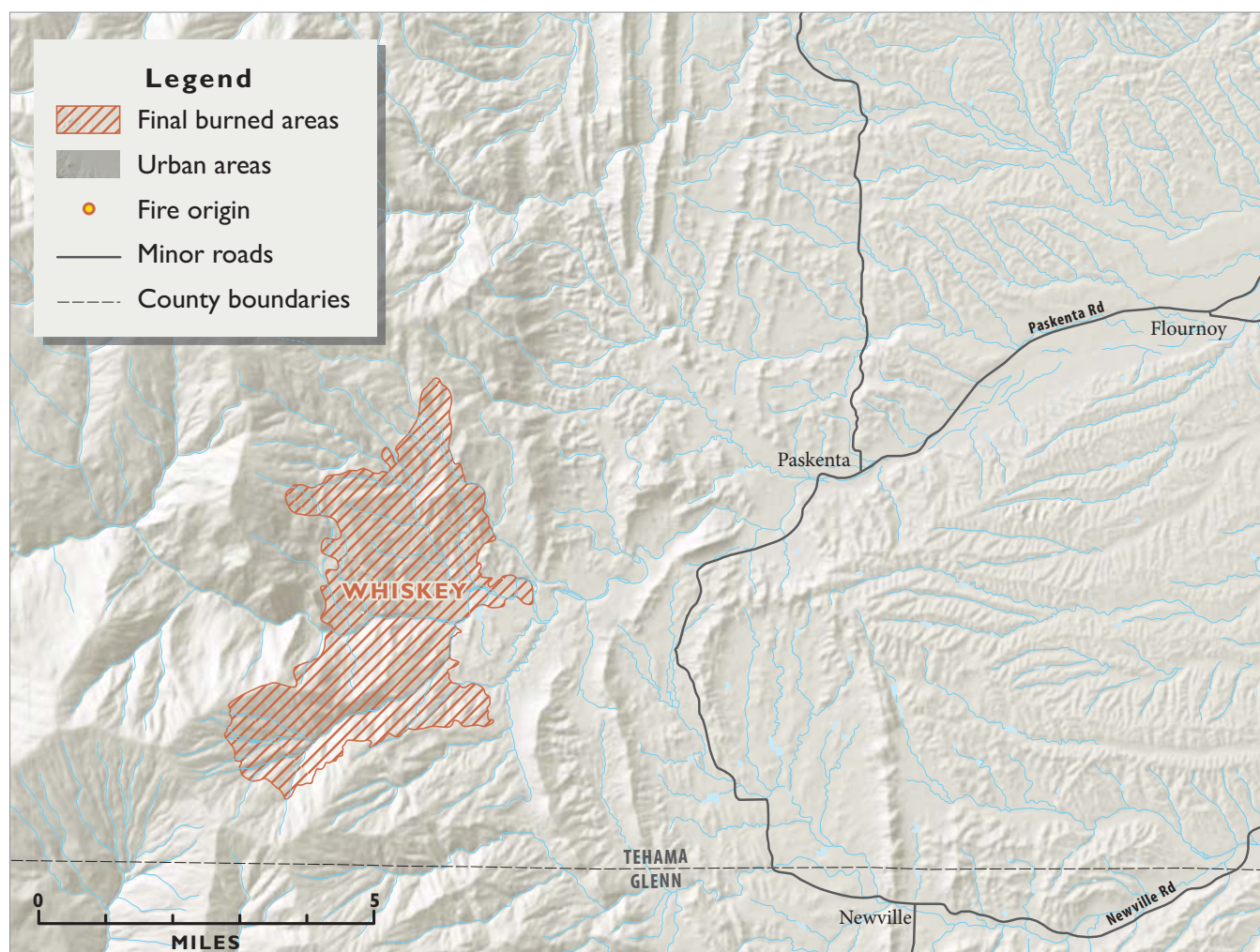


STATISTICS			
Number of Fires: 1	Lake Isabella, Erskine Creek, and Thompson Creek	Teams assigned USFS, Sequoia National Forest (SQF), BLM	Containment Date: 7/25/2008
Major fires: Piute Fire	Agencies in Command: USFS, BLM, Kern County Fire Department	Bakersfield District, Kern County Fire Department	Total Acres: 37,026 acres
County: Kern			Direct Fire Suppression Costs: \$25,000,000
Affected Communities: Bodfish,		Start Report Date: 6/28/2008	Firefighters Assigned at Peak:

The Piute Fire starts in a remote area to the southeast of the communities of Bodfish and Lake Isabella. Extremely dry fuel burns with high intensity and the fire is channeled by the terrain in several directions simultaneously. Within 24 hours, the fire grows to over 2,000 acres and is well established in steep and inaccessible canyons. The fire is pushed in all directions by continuously shifting winds, plaguing

firefighters for several days. On the night of July 13th, a severe rainstorm passes over the fire requiring crews to be pulled off the line for safety. Several roads leading into the fire are damaged or closed by flooding. However, the higher humidity and improved weather enables crews to get the upper hand. The Piute Fire is fully contained on July 25.

Whiskeytown Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 5

Major fires: Mary Fire, Bally Fire, Boulder Fire, Brandy Fire

County: Shasta

Affected Communities: Igo,

Ono, Shasta, Redding

Agencies in Command: NPS, Whiskeytown National Recreation Area (WNP)

Start Report Date: 6/21/08

Containment Date: 7/14/08

Total Acres: 6,240 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs: \$9,400,000

Firefighters Assigned at Peak: 448

Structures Damaged or

Destroyed: 0

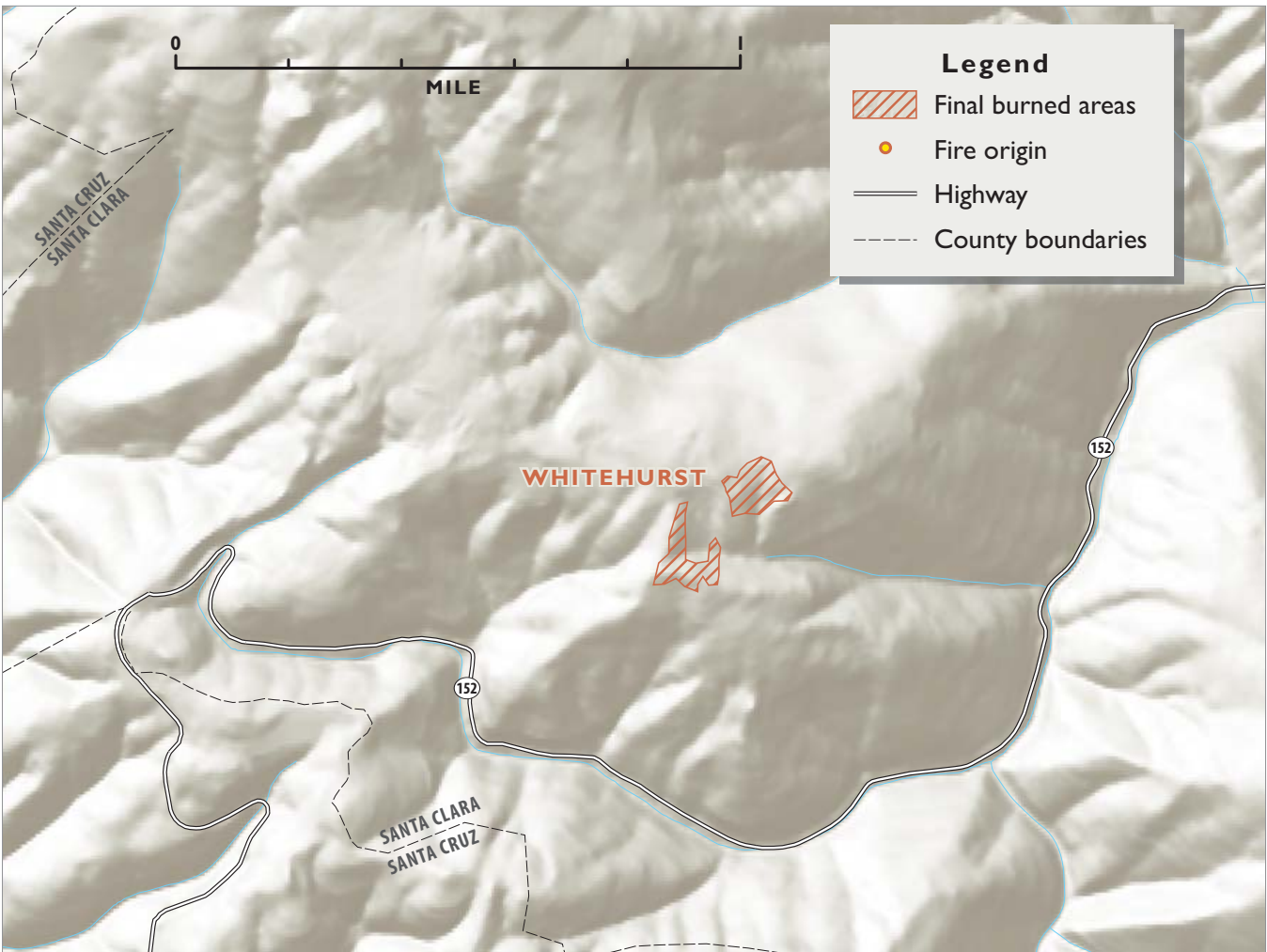
Fuels: Timber, & brush

Cause: Lightning

A major concern during the Whiskeytown Complex is the threat to commercial communications towers and associated infrastructure on Shasta Bally. These towers are used by television, radio, numerous public and private agencies, and for two-way radio communications in the Redding area. The WAPA high voltage transmission lines, one of the primary power

supplies for northern California, are also threatened. Managing fire around these power lines creates safety and operational challenges. One power line arcs when retardant is dropped on it, shutting down the power to communications facilities. Other significant events during the complex include evacuations along Whiskey Creek Road and temporary closures of Hwy 299.

Whitehurst Fire



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 1
County: Santa Clara
Affected Communities: Gilroy and Watsonville

Agencies in Command: CAL FIRE
Teams assigned CAL FIRE
Start Report Date: 6/21/2008 at 1:57 PM
Containment Date: 6/24/2008

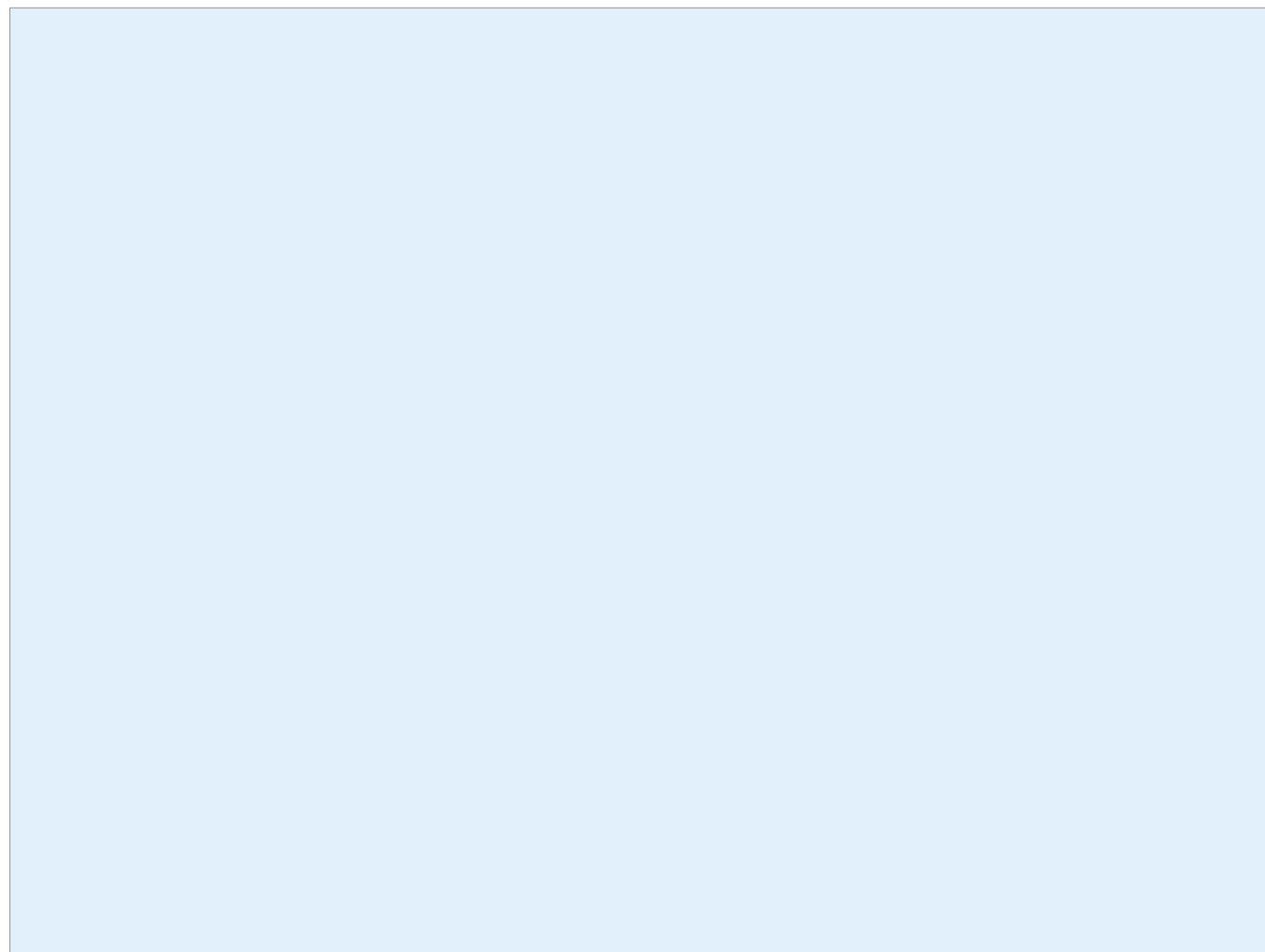
Total Acres: 200 acres
Direct Fire Suppression Costs: \$380,000
Firefighters Assigned at Peak: 265
Structures Destroyed: 0

Structures Damaged: 0
Fatalities: 0
Fuels: brush, and timber
Cause: Lightning

The **Whitehurst fire** is west of Gilroy and North of Hwy 152, burning heavy brush and redwood timber and threatening Mt. Madonna County Park. The fire has the potential to burn several thousand acres. The vegetation and conditions are similar to those during the Summit Fire that burned at the end of May. Smoke is visible from Highway 152 (Hecker Pass) slowing traffic. Highway 152 is a heavily used by commuter route,

connecting the Silicon Valley and Gilroy, to western Monterey and southern Santa Cruz Counties. The arrival of additional hand crews and engines, enable fire personnel to limit the fire to 200 acres. Highway 152 re-opens to residents with ID on June 23rd, and opens to all traffic with full containment on the morning of June 24th.

Quarry Fire



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 1

County: San Mateo

Affected Communities: Brisbane

Agencies in Command: CAL FIRE

Teams assigned: CAL FIRE' San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit (CZU)

Start Report Date:

6/22/2008 at 7:33 PM

Containment Date: 6/23/2008

Total Acres: 300 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:

Unknown

Firefighters Assigned at Peak: 87

Structures Destroyed: 0

Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 0

Fuels: Grass and brush

Cause: Under investigation

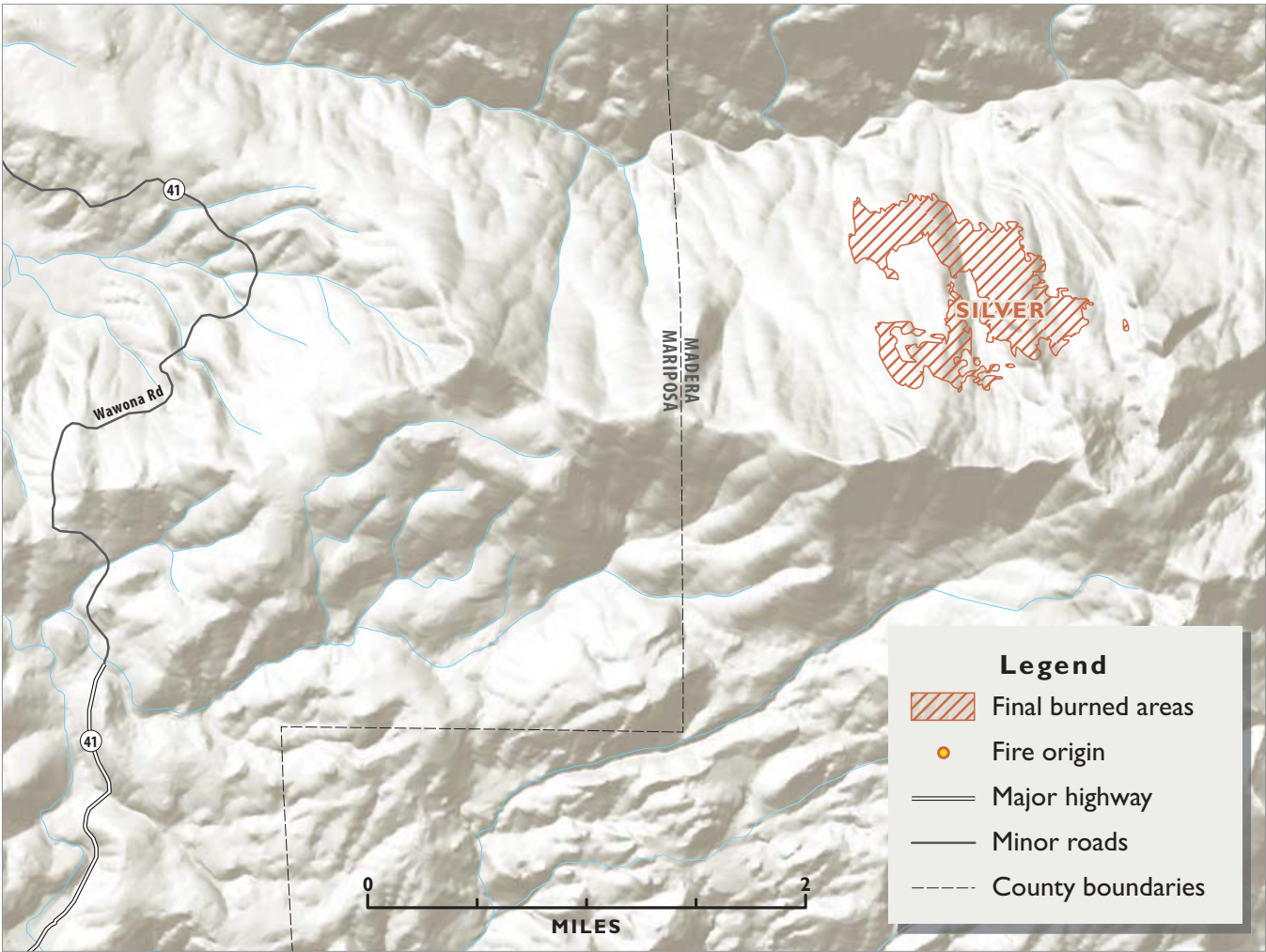
The Quarry Fire starts on June 22 threatening 450 structures uphill from the fire. A major high voltage transmission line, providing power to a major electrical distribution center at Hunters Point, is over the fire.

An additional concern for the firefighters and public is the proximity of the fire to San Francisco International Airport. The air traffic in and out of the airport will

have an impact on the firefighting aircraft that are supporting ground resources in the firefighting effort. Smoke from the fire has the potential to impact flights with National and International implications.

By the morning of June 23rd, the fire has grown to 300 acres but is 85% contained. All evacuations of residences have been lifted. With no further fire

Silver Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 6
Major fires: Oliver, Silver Knob and Chiquito Fires
County: Madera and Mariposa

Affected Communities: Bass Lake, North Fork, and Fish Camp
Agencies in Command: USFS
Team assigned: Sierra National Forest
Start Report Date: 6/21/2008

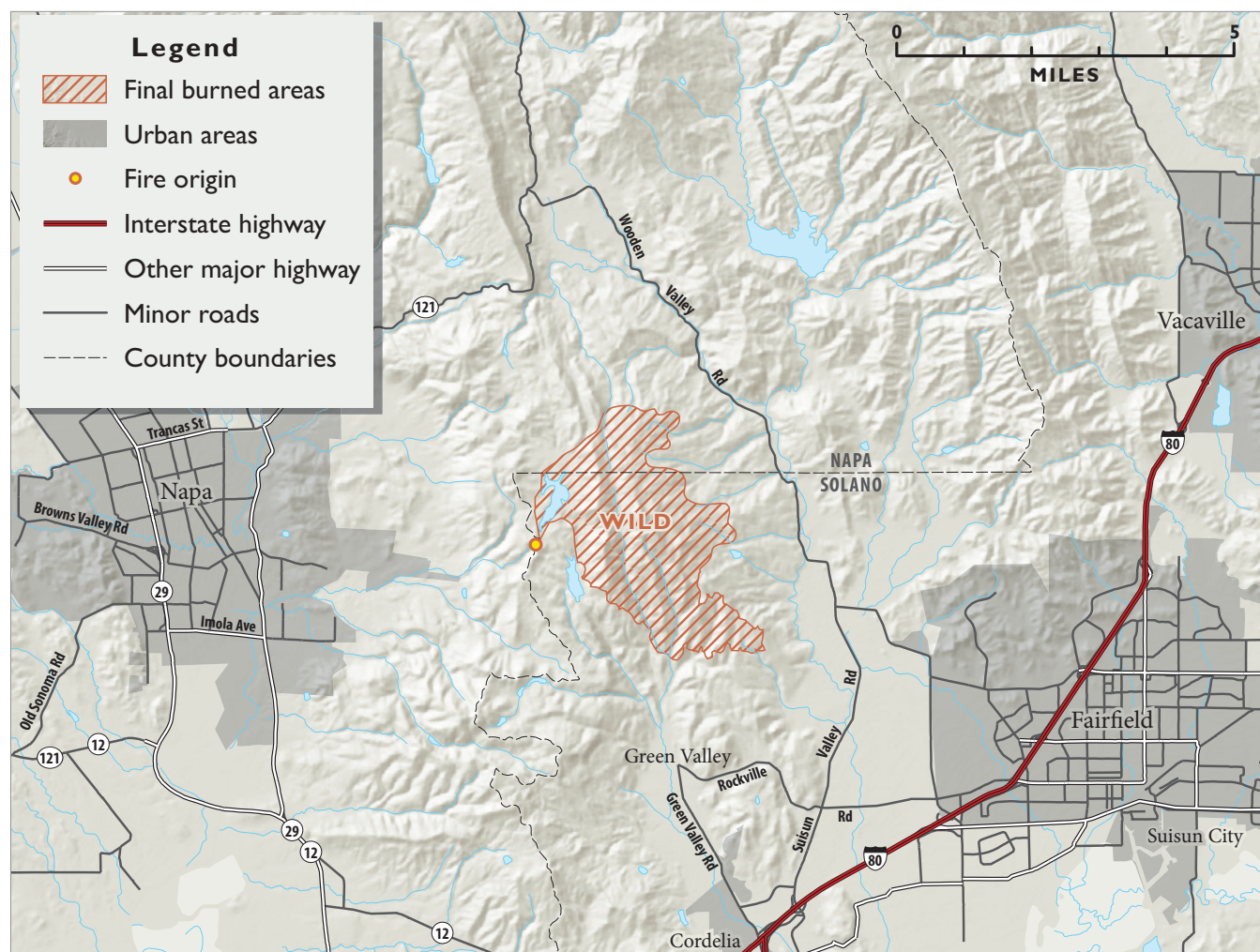
Containment Date:
Total Acres: 1,161 acres
Direct Fire Suppression Costs: \$3,360,000
Firefighters Assigned at Peak: 529

Structures Destroyed: 0
Structures Damaged: 0
Fatalities: 0
Fuels: Brush and timber
Cause: Lightning

The fires are burning in steep inaccessible terrain and require significant air support for successful containment. One of the fires in the complex, the Oliver Fire, is separated from the complex to facilitate its control. The Oliver Fire is placed under the

command of CA – ICT #6 while the Silver Complex is managed by a NIMO Team. Given its remote location, the Silver Complex has minimal impacts on the public, residences or infrastructure.

Wild Fire



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 1

County: Napa

Affected Communities: Wooden Valley Rd, Suisun Valley, and

Green Valley

Agencies in Command: CAL FIRE

Teams assigned: CAL FIRE's

Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit (LNU)

Start Report Date: 6/21 4:00 PM

Containment Date: 6/25/2008

Total Acres: 4,089 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:

\$1,243,265

Firefighters Assigned at Peak: 540

Structures Destroyed: 1

Structures Damaged: 0

Fatalities: 0

Fuels: Brush, woodland and grass

Cause: Under investigation

When initial attack forces arrive at the Wild Fire it is spreading rapidly through light fuels on both sides of Wildhorse Valley Road. The fire soon jumps the first major barrier, Lake Madigan, and burns rapidly in multiple directions with the erratic gusty winds. Spot fires are developing up to ¼ mile ahead of the main fire. Retardant drops from four air tankers are ineffective

during the first afternoon due to strong, gusty winds. Firefighters keep the fire from entering the Wildhorse subdivision. By midnight the fire is over 1,000 acres and spreading into difficult terrain.

On Sunday, June 22, the erratic winds continue to spread the fire to the east and the south. Tanker 910 (the DC-10) is instrumental in helping firefighters keep the

TCU Lightning Complex



STATISTICS

Number of Fires: 12
Affected Communities:
Big Trees State Park
Agencies in Command: CAL FIRE

Teams assigned CAL FIRE's
Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit (TCU)
Start Report Date: 6/21/2008
Containment Date: 6/22/2008
Total Acres: 133 acres

Direct Fire Suppression Costs:
Undetermined
Firefighters Assigned at Peak:
389
Structures Destroyed: 3

Structures Damaged: 0
Fatalities: 0
Fuels: Timber and grass
Cause: Lightning

The TCU Lightning Complex consists of 12 forest and grass fires starting as a result of the lightning storm that sweeps across the Sierra Nevada Mountains on June 21st. The TCU Unit quickly recognizes the need to organize into a complex, and establishes the TCU

Lightning Complex. All of the fires are contained within two days and an additional week is required for complete control.

**Awaiting Content:
Proclamations**

**Awaiting Content:
Executive Orders**

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Proclamations**

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Acknowledgements**



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